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FIRST EDITION

The Virginius.

OPINION OF ATTORNEY GENERAL WILLIAMS.

THE VESSEL HAD NO RIGHT TO THE FLAG.

Her Papers Illegal and Registry Void.

Exempt on the High Seas, However, from Spanish Interference.

The United States Will Punish Violations of Her Own Laws.

The Surrender of the Prisoners.

Inhumanities Practiced on Them.

Their Joy at the Sight of the Stars and Stripes.

The following is the opinion of Attorney General Williams in the Virginius case:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
WASHINGTON, December 17, 1873.

Hon. Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State:

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst., submitting to me a large number of documents and depositions, and asking for my opinion as to whether or not the Virginius, at the time of her capture by the Spanish man-of-war Tornado, was entitled to carry the flag of the United States, and whether or not she was carrying it improperly and without right at that time. These questions arise under the protocol of the 29th ult. between the Spanish Minister and the Secretary of State, in which, among other things, it is agreed that on the 25th inst. Spain shall salute the flag of the United States; but it is further provided that if Spain should prove to the satisfaction of the United States that the Virginius was not entitled to carry the flag of the United States, and was carrying it improperly and without right at that time, the salute will be spontaneously dispensed with, as in such case it is not being unnecessarily reparable, but the United States will expect in such case a disclaimer of an intent of indignity to its flag in the act which was committed.

Section 1 of the act of December 31, 1792, provides that ships or vessels registered pursuant to such act, and no other, except such as shall be duly qualified according to law for carrying on coasting trade, and denominated or deemed ships or vessels of the United States, shall be entitled to the benefits and privileges appertaining to such ships. Section 4 of the same act provides for an oath by which, among other things, to obtain the registry of a vessel, the owner is required to swear that there is no alien or foreign citizen of any foreign prince or State, directly or indirectly, by way of trust, confidence or otherwise, interested in such ship or vessel, or in the profits or issues thereof. Obviously, therefore, no vessel in which a foreigner is directly or indirectly interested is entitled to a United States registry, and if one is obtained by a false oath as to that point and the fact is that the vessel is owned or partly owned by foreigners, she cannot be deemed a vessel of the United States or entitled to the benefits or privileges appertaining to such vessels.

The Virginius was registered in New York on the 29th of September, 1870, in the name of Patterson, who made oath as required by law, but the depositions submitted abundantly show that in fact Patterson was not the owner at that time, but that the vessel was the property of certain Cuban citizens in New York, who furnished the necessary funds for her purchase. J. E. Shepherd, who commanded said vessel, when she left New York with a certificate of her register in the name of Patterson, testified positively that he entered into an agreement to command said vessel at an interview between Quesada, Moro, Patterson and others, at which it was distinctly understood that the Virginius belonged to Quesada, Moro and other Cubans, and that the said Moro exhibited to him receipts for the purchase money and for repairs and supplies upon said steamer, and explained to him how said funds were raised among the Cubans in New York. Adolphe de Varona, who was Secretary of the Cuban mission in New York, at the time the Virginius was purchased, and afterwards sailed in her as Quesada's chief of staff, testifies that he was acquainted with all the details of the transactions and knows that the Virginius was purchased with the funds of Cubans, and with the understanding and arrangement that Patterson should appear as the nominal owner, because foreigners could not obtain a United States register for a vessel. Francis Bowen, Charles Smith, Edward Greenwood, John McCann, Matthew Murphy, Ambrose Rawlings, Thomas Gallagher, John Furlong, Thomas Anderson and George W. Miller, who were employed upon the Virginius in various capacities after she was registered in the name of Patterson, testify clearly to the effect that they were informed and understood while they were upon the vessel, that she belonged to Quesada and the Cubans represented by him, and that he navigated, controlled and treated such vessel in all respects as though it was his property. Nothing appears to weaken the force of this testimony, though witnesses were generally subjected to cross examination, but on the contrary all the circumstances of the case tend to its corroboration. With the oath for registry, the statute requires a bond to be given, signed by the owner, captain and one or more sureties, but there were no sureties upon the bond given by Patterson and Shepherd. Pains have been taken to ascertain if there was any insurance upon the vessel, but nothing of the kind has been found and Quesada, Varona and other Cubans who took passage upon the Virginius, instead of going on board at the wharf in the usual way, went aboard off a tug after the vessel had left the harbor of New York.

I cannot do otherwise than to hold, upon this evidence, that Patterson's oath was false and that the register obtained in his name was a fraud upon the navigation laws of the United States. Assuming the question to be what appears to conform to the intent of the protocol, whether or not the Virginius at the time of her capture had a right, as against the United States, to carry the American flag, I am of opinion that she had no such right, because she had not been registered according to law. But I am also of opinion that she was as much exempt from interference on the high seas by another power on that ground, as though she had been lawfully registered. Spain, no doubt has a right to capture a vessel with an American register and carrying the American flag, found in her own waters assisting or endeavoring to assist the insurrection in Cuba; but she has no right to capture such a vessel on the high seas upon an apprehension that, in violation of neutrality or the navigation laws of the United States, she was on her way to assist said rebellion. Spain may defend her territory and people from the hostile attack of what is, or appears to be, an American vessel, but she has no jurisdiction whatever over the question as to whether or not such vessel is on the high seas in violation of any law of the United States. Spain cannot rightfully raise that question as to the Virginius, but the United States may, and, as I understand the protocol, they have agreed to do so, and, powered by that agreement and without admitting that Spain would otherwise have any interest in the question, I decide that the Virginius, at the time of her capture, was without right and improperly carrying the American flag.

Very respectfully,
(Signed,) GEO. H. WILLIAMS,
Attorney General.

NEW YORK, December 22.—The *Tribune's* Key West telegram gives an account of the surrender of the Virginius prisoners to Lieutenant Commander Braine, of the Juniata. It appears that the Spanish authorities, to the last moment, kept the poor wretches in ignorance of their prospective release and, with base inhumanity, led them to suppose that they were to be executed. Priests were with them, taking their confessions and dying declarations, and imploring them to look to God for pardon. They were taken out of the prison in despair, but on their way to the slaughter pen, as they supposed, their eyes fell upon the Juniata flying the flag of the United States. When they realized the truth, a scene occurred which beggars description. Their enthusiasm knew no bounds. They were speedily transferred to the deck of the Juniata and gave vent to the most extravagant but touching demonstrations of joy, embracing each other, some crying, some kissing, and others audibly offering thanks to the Almighty for their deliverance from the horrors of their dungeon and the prospect of an ignominious death. On the night before the surrender, the officers and crew of the Juniata were stationed at quarters, her guns being turned on the city, the Spanish volunteers having been excited to an open riot by the rumor that the surrender was to take place. A large number of volunteers went in a body to the Governor's palace and begged permission to attempt the capture of the Juniata, saying that they could do it with knives alone. The Governor refused the grant permission. Our officers believe that the application was made in earnest and not a few regret that it was not favorably entertained, as the Juniata alone, not to speak of the Kansas and Pinta, would have been more than a match for their assailants. On the arrival of the Pinta at Santiago, orders came to the ship from Commander Braine for the paymaster to issue all the blankets and pea-jackets in his department to the prisoners, who were hardly fit to be seen in their rags. This was speedily done, but as there was still great destitution, orders came for every man on board to give his own blankets and wearing apparel in the good cause, the promise being made that all would be replaced on the arrival of the ship at Key West. The officers and men cheerfully complied with this order, only preferring that it should be issued as a request, in which case they would have obeyed with just as much alacrity. Every heart was touched by the pitiable condition of the prisoners. The poor fellows report that they were barbarously treated. The surrender took place at Moro Castle, six miles below Santiago. A receipt was given for the prisoners. It was received in Santiago that when it was found that the Virginius had been towed out of the harbor of Havana, a large number of naval officers of high grade tendered their resignations to the home government by telegraph.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

England.

DEATH OF A NOBLEMAN.

LONDON, December 22.—Sir Gillroy Pigott, Baron of the Exchequer, is dead.

HE STILL LIVES.

LONDON, December 22.—The report of the death of the Ashantee King proves false.

Germany.

THE DUTCH TAKE ACHEEN AT LAST.

THE HAGUE, December 22.—A dispatch from Penang, dated December 20, announces that the Dutch troops occupied both banks of the river running through Acheen. The Sultan seeing defeat inevitable, has given in his submission to the Dutch commander.

France.

FRENCH AND AMERICAN POSTAL COMMUNICATION.

PARIS, December 22.—In the Assembly today, several members alluded to the imperfect postal arrangement between France and the United States, and urged the government to hasten the signing of pending convention. They complained of the present situation, declaring it to be injurious to French commerce, and intolerable to the people at large. The Financial Secretary replied that it was the government's earnest desire to harmonize the interests of the two countries, and that a speedy understanding was expected.

Italy.

APPOINTMENT OF TWELVE CARDINALS.

ROME, December 22.—In the Consistory today, the Pope delivered his allocution and appointed twelve cardinals.

Marine News.

LIVERPOOL, December 22.—The steamships City of Brussels, France and Westphalia, from New York; and Ohio and Netherland, from Philadelphia, arrived out.

European Markets.

LONDON, December 22.—Consols for money 91¾a 92; account 92; 5-20s, '65, 91; do. '67, 91¾; new 5s, 9 ¾; New York Central 78; Erie 36¾; Erie preferred 58¾.

PARIS, December 22.—Rentes 58 francs 20 centimes.

LIVERPOOL, December 22.—Cotton dull at 8¾a 8¾d; sales 10,000 bales; American 5,600 bales; speculation and export 2,000 bales. Breadstuffs quiet. Corn 36s 6d@36s 9d. Beef 84s 6d. Pork 62s.

ANTWERP, December 22.—Refined petroleum 30¾ francs.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 22, 1873.

STATUE OF KOSCIUSKO.

The Polish exiles propose to erect a statue of Kosciusko in Central Park.

SHIPWRECK OFF NEWFOUNDLAND.

A London dispatch says the ship America, from Barrow to New York, was foundered off the banks of Newfoundland. The captain and three men were drowned; the remainder of the crew took to the boats, and after being out six days, were picked up and landed at Dartmouth on December 20th.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH TROUBLES.

The committee of the church of the Pilgrims and Clinton avenue church, Brooklyn, have addressed a letter to Henry Ward Beecher and the members of Plymouth church, declaring that the denominational alliance with that church will be suspended should they affirm their previous proclamation of the right of Plymouth church to judge in every case what fellowship, advice or assistance may, according to the laws of Christ, properly be offered, or received from, other churches.

COURT HOUSE COMMISSIONERS.

When the cases of Michael Norton, Thomas J. Connor, John J. Walsh, and George S. Miller, Court House Commissioners under the Ring, were called for trial on charges of misdemeanor, the defendants failed to appear and bail was forfeited. Andrew J. Smith, indicted for the same offense, plead not guilty. Smith's counsel describes his client as the last rose of summer, left blooming alone; his lovely companions are faded and gone. Ex-Mayor Hall was present with counsel.

DOUBLE MURDER ON BROOME STREET.

A cry of murder was heard issuing from a five-story tenement house, No. 204 Broome street, early this morning, and on the police entering they found on the second landing the body of Michael Ryan, with his throat cut. The police then went into the room occupied by deceased, and there found the body of his sister, Mary, with her throat also cut. It was thought at first that Ryan had killed his sister and then himself, but an investigation showed that his pockets were rifled, bank-book missing, and his watch and chain wrenched from his vest, which article of clothing was found on the roof.

ESCAPE OF GENET.

Harry Genet, the latest convicted murder of the late King, was permitted to visit his wife in charge of a deputy sheriff last night, and has not been seen since. He was to be sentenced to-day. Sheriff Brennan offers a reward of five thousand dollars for the recapture of Genet. In the Court of Oyer and Terminer to-day, Judge Daniels characterized the escape of Genet as gross neglect and gross misconduct on the part of the deputy sheriff, but said that until it was ascertained that steps for his recapture were unsuccessful, no action will be taken in the matter. Genet's counsel said they would proceed to perfect their bill of exceptions.

Judge Daniels to-day granted an order, returnable to-morrow, against Sheriff Brennan and his deputy, Shields, requiring them to show cause why they should not be punished for contempt in disregarding the order of the court to produce Genet. It appears that on Saturday last the Assistant District Attorney wrote to Sheriff Brennan assuring him that Genet would attempt to escape. An order was given by the court on Saturday for the confinement of Genet in the tombs until sentence had been pronounced. The order of the court was entirely ignored by the sheriff. The latest rumor in regard to the escape is that Genet embarked on his own yacht, which had been loaded with provisions and filled with friends in readiness for his flight.

THE TRIAL OF EX-MAYOR HALL was commenced to-day, and the work of procuring a jury is progressing.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

Cairo and Fulton Arkansas Bridge Finished.

LITTLE ROCK, December 22.—The Cairo and Fulton Railroad bridge across the Arkansas river at this point was completed last evening, and to-day several trains passed. This gives an unbroken railway connection between St. Louis and Fulton. The bridge across Red river, at the latter place, is rapidly approaching completion. The completion of the bridge here is the occasion of great rejoicing.

Chicago Workingmen Make their Demand Upon the City Government.

CHICAGO, December 22.—In accordance with the programme adopted at the workingmen's meeting, held at Turner Hall last night, the committee appointed for that purpose went this evening to the council chamber escorted by an irregular procession which numbered, by the time it reached the city, perhaps three thousand persons, and presented the resolutions adopted at last night's meeting asking that the city give them work, or in the event of their being unable to this, to furnish them and their families support until work could be obtained. The chairman of the committee, F. A. Hoffman, Jr., a young lawyer, made a short speech to the effect that the resolution embodied all that the workingmen desired of the city government, and asking for their demands a careful hearing. The resolutions were received and referred, after some discussion, to a special committee, consisting of the Mayor, the Finance Committee and nine Aldermen, three from each division of the city, who will to-morrow have a conference with a committee of the workingmen appointed for that purpose. Mayor Colvin made a speech in reply to the committee, assuring them of his sympathy with the class they represented, and of his earnest desire to aid them in any practicable way. The committee then retired, and on reaching the crowd outside the chairman reported the result of their visit to the council, and advised them to return to their homes. The crowd, a large portion of which appeared to have gathered more out of curiosity than anything else, then dispersed.

Cincinnati Workingmen Still on the Move.

CINCINNATI, December 22.—A procession of eight hundred to a thousand laboring men, mostly Germans, made demonstrations to-day by marching through the streets. They assembled in Fountain square, and sent for General Samuel F. Carey, who addressed them, counseling moderation, and reminding them that capitalists and employers, as well as they, were suffering from the times. The procession went to the Mayor's office and were met by the Chief of Police, who met them as the representative of the Mayor. The speeches made there were only an exchange of compliments. A representative of the procession thanked the Mayor and denounced other members of the Board of Improvement for lowering their daily wages.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

A Novel Proceeding Contemplated.

Proposition to Summon Secretary Richardson Before the House.

THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE.

Money Lost by Its Abolition.

Increased Taxation Still in the Distance.

Excitement Over Virginius Dispatches.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 22, 1873.

Movement to Call Secretary Richardson Before the House.

It is understood that Mr. Beck, of Kentucky, a member of the Committee on Ways and Means, when Congress again meets will offer a resolution directing the Secretary of the Treasury to appear in person and explain his financial policy and the operation of his office to the House. If passed, it will be a novel sight to see the Secretary of the Treasury standing at the Clerk's desk, under cross-examination and answering questions propounded to him. This will be under the act of 1789 organizing the department, which, among other things, says that the Secretary shall make report and give information to either branch of the Legislature in person or in writing, as he may be required, respecting all matters referred to him by the Senate or House of Representatives, or which shall appertain to his office. This law was passed at the instance of Alexander Hamilton and has never been repealed, though never enforced.

The Franking Privilege.

The annual report of the Postmaster General shows that the Postoffice Department is not self-sustaining even with the abolition of the franking privilege in its favor. At the same time, it will be shown by the reports to be submitted to Congress, that it has cost the government more cash to purchase postage stamps than it ever cost to send out documents under the franking privilege. In view of this fact, some of the most prominent Members of Congress are in favor of the restoration of the privilege in a modified form.

The House Committee on Appropriations has adjourned until one week from to-morrow. This is in consequence of the fact that sub-committees have been appointed to look after a reduction of the departmental estimates.

Boston Custom House and Postoffice.

Messrs. Garfield and Hale leave to-night for Boston to look after a site for the Custom House and Postoffice there, for which a large amount has been asked to purchase additional property.

The Indian Bill,

which is in the hands of Messrs. Loughridge, Parker, of Missouri, and Hancock, will probably be the first reported to the House, and these gentlemen are hunting up estimates on the subject.

Increased Taxation.

The Committee on Ways and Means has adjourned for the recess because they say they cannot act intelligently until after they have received the reduced estimates from the departments. They will not report any bill for an increase of taxation until after they have ascertained to what extent the departments can reduce the estimates. In this decision Republicans and Democrats alike concur.

The Virginius Excitement.

The publication of Commander Braine's official account of the Virginius affair has occasioned a renewal of excitement and discussion in official circles, and especially among Congressmen who would like to see Cuban belligerency recognized. The excitement has been intensified by the rumor that Spain will demand the restoration of the Virginius, in consequence of the Attorney General's decision that, at the time of her capture she had no right to carry the American flag.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 22, 1873.

KU KLUX RECOMMENDED TO MERCY.

The Attorney General has recommended to the President the pardon of Marion Fowler, William Ramsey and John Whittock, convicted Ku Klux, now serving terms of imprisonment in the Albany prison.

What it Costs to Run the Government—The Estimates from the Executive, Executive and Judicial Branches—Foreign Intercourse—Military and Naval Establishments—Pensions—Public Works—Postal Service—Miscellaneous—Specific and Indefinite Appropriations—A Comparison of Estimates and Appropriations—Revenues—Disbursements—The Prospective Deficit—A Favorable Outlook.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 22, 1873.

With the growth of population and wealth has naturally come an expansion of the settled area of the country. Regions but a few years ago traversed by wild Indians have been brought under contribution to the husbandman, miner and manufacturer; settlements have been established, villages, towns and cities have sprung up, and new States, each an empire in itself, have been admitted into the National Union. This increase necessitates annual expenditures as it also is, and should be, attended with larger receipts. The temporary derangement of business, though to be regretted in every respect, has not been without its advantages in so straitening the finances of the government as to demand a thorough investigation of everything respecting the revenues and disbursements. All items estimated for are under laws of Congress, though perhaps in every instance, except where the appropriation is absolutely fixed, the sums are in excess of those required. There are two reasons for this; one is to allow a margin for the chances of a reduction, and the other to secure the largest reasonable allowance. While the subject of reducing estimates is before Congress and the Executive, it will doubtless be of interest to know what it takes to run the immense government machine. The estimates are classified under the various heads of civil establishment, foreign intercourse, military establishment, naval establishment, Indian affairs, public works, postal service, miscellaneous, permanent appropriations, and those given are for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.—Legislative, *Senate*—Salaries and traveling expenses of Senators, $590,000; salaries of officers and employees of the Senate, $144,630; temporary clerks, $11,500; contingent expenses, $106,257. *House of Representatives*—Salaries and traveling expenses of members and delegates, $2,415,000; salaries of officers and employees, $218,497; contingent expenses, $267,142. Office of the Congressional Printer, $45,917; contingent expenses, $5,400; Library of Congress, $20,061; purchase of books, $13,000; contingent, $2,500; Botanic Garden, $12,146; Improving garden, $5,000; Court of Claims, $33,373; total Legislative, $3,961,405. *Executive*—Executive proper, including salaries of the President and Vice President, and expenses of the executive office, $81,300; Department of State, $221,220; Treasury, $3,583,400; independent treasury, $549,477; Mints, and Assay offices, $1,333,196; Territorial governments, $261,675; Internal Revenue, $5,190,542. Treasury—Miscellaneous, including lifesaving stations, revenue cutter service, Marine Hospital establishment, &c., $1,473,342; total, $12,396,671. War Department—Office of the Secretary, staff, &c., $876,886. Navy Department—Office of the Secretary and bureaus, $146,910. Interior Department—Office of the Secretary and bureaus, $1,774,800; public lands, $772,840; Interior miscellaneous, Government Hospital for the Insane, Columbia Hospital for Women and Lying-in Asylum, Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, and Smithsonian Institution (National Museum), $239,285; total, $2,786,925. Post Office Department, $334,472. Department of Justice, $510,050; Department of Agriculture, $250,240; total executive, $17,895,674. *Judicial*—Supreme Court of the United States, District Courts, Courts in the District of Columbia, District Attorneys, United States Marshals, &c., $3,409,700. The total of the Civil establishment is $35,296,830.

FOREIGN INTERCOURSE—Diplomatic salaries, $550,000; secretaries of legation, $36,000; contingent expenses of foreign missions, $100,000; consular salaries, $412,500; consular contingencies, $133,650; and for interpreters, marshals, United States and Spanish, and United States and Mexican claims, and Northern Boundary Commissioners and miscellaneous—total foreign intercourse, $3,347,304.

MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT—Including the Commanding General's office, the various staff departments and military academy, and pay of all, $34,881,618.

NAVAL ESTABLISHMENT—General service and bureaus, naval academy and marine corps, $19,251,935.

INDIAN AFFAIRS—Indian service, current and contingent expenses, fulfilling treaties and general incidental expenses, $6,769,779.

PENSIONS—Army and navy, $50,180,000.

PUBLIC WORKS—Under the Treasury Department, public buildings, $8,146,449; lighthouses, beacons and fog signals, $2,116,300; and revenue marine service, building a vessel, $125,000; total under Treasury Department, $10,387,749. Under the War Department, armories and arsenals, $555,954; fortifications and other works of defense, $3,601,000; improving harbors and rivers, $15,634,540; buildings and grounds around Washington, $1,050,160; and military academy, $43,500; total under the War Department, $21,355,094. Under the Navy Department, navy yards and stations, $864,589; under the Department of the Interior, $408,204; Department of Justice, $39,500; and Department of Agriculture, $25,150. Total for Public Works, $33,168,287.

POSTAL SERVICE—$6,811,363, viz.: Expenditures, $33,923,912; postal revenues, $29,293,549; deficiency in postal revenues, $4,630,363. The balance is for steamship service and postages.

MISCELLANEOUS—Public printing and binding, $2,259,148; judgments of Court of Claims, $2,000,000; light house establishment, $1,887,837; coast survey, $825,000; and miscellaneous under the treasury, $1,035,500; signal office, $305,325; and miscellaneous under the War Department, $1,262,000; surveying public lands, $1,061,570. Total miscellaneous, $10,704,381.

The permanent specific and indefinite appropriations, including the sinking fund $29,191,269; interest on the public debt, $98,000,000; interest on Pacific Railway stock, $3,877,410; amount to $148,945,670.

A comparison of the above estimates with the appropriations, shows as follows:

	Estimates for 1875.	Appropriations for 1874.
Legislative Establishment	$3,961,405 62	$3,965,771 93
Executive Establishment	17,895,674 90	17,869,741 60
Judicial Establishment	3,409,700 00	3,433,059 00
Foreign Intercourse	3,347,304 00	1,664,575 00
Military Establishment	34,881,618 10	34,154,230 11
Naval Establishment	19,251,935 96	22,2 0,934 65
Indian Affairs	6,769,779 61	5,530,219 30
Pensions	50,180,000 00	30,430,000 00
Public Works	33,168,287 10	24,342,533 61
Postal Service	6,811,363 00	7,293,642 00
Miscellaneous	10,704,381 42	8,876,641 50
Permanent Appropriations	148,521,237 21	148,945,670 49
Grand totals	$319,198,736 84	$306,060,262 24

The estimates and appropriations arranged under the head of departments, are as follows:

	Estimates for 1875.	Appropriations for 1874.
Congress	$ 8,051,570 03	$ 6,518,793 47
Executive Proper	81,300 00	81,900 00
Department of State	3,672,754 00	1,937,445 00
Treasury Department	172,884,906 15	175,069,457 97
War Department	60,186,923 89	61,319,574 63
Navy Department	20,268,435 14	24,231,090 65
Interior Department	41,758,073 61	40,697,726 52
Post Office Dep't	34,345,549 00	31,052,914 00
Dep't of Justice	3,901,800 00	3,902,941 00
Dep't of Agriculture	272,290 00	257,691 00
Grand total	$319,198,736 84	$306,060,262 24

To meet the expenses of the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1873, the revenues were derived from the following sources:

	Gross.	Net.
Customs service	$190,055,992 66	$183,161,838 66
Int. revenue service	113,908,941 24	114,747,772 99
Public lands	2,646,671 05	2,811,613 95
Miscellaneous	26,106,606 02	15,270,060 59
Grand total	$333,738,201 67	$314,026,286 59

The actual disbursements for the same period were as follows:

Legislative	$7,063,789 96
Executive proper	87,801 35
State Department	1,265,212 86
Treasury "	149,351,694 83
War "	46,666,294 10
Navy "	23,174,9 7 82
Interior "	42,766,541 04
Post Office "	5,942,305 80
Agricultural Department	228,941 77
Department of Justice	3,914,774 16
Judiciary	3,720,302 03
Total actual expenses	$270,633,327 25

The falling off of the revenue during the past few months, having compelled the use of the reserves finds the government already about twenty millions in advance of the subject of discount concern is as to the best means of covering this prospective deficit of the year. There are two ways proposed, one is by a temporary loan, and the other by an increase of taxes. Within the past week there has been a favorable turn in the revenues a slight increase being indicated both in internal taxes and customs. A distinguished financier encouraging our look would set aside all necessity of creating additional taxes, and possibly a resort to the proposed temporary loan. This taken in connection with the resolution on the part of Congress to retrench in every manner possible, increased the probability of weathering through without resort to either of the means suggested. So that after all the result will be highly beneficial and leave the financial condition of the gov[illegible] in a better condition than ever. If Congress succeeds in reducing the expenses of government, say thirty millions, and the [illegible] ceipts approximate, as they now promise, the total of last year, it must be easily seen that the financial status of the government will be better than before the panic, for in addition to a restored revenue there will be practical retrenchment in the expenditures of every department. DeB. R. K.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 23, 1 A. M.

PROBABILITIES.

For New England and thence west and over the northern portion of the Middle States and the Lower Lake region, clear or partly cloudy weather, with low temperature, will prevail during the greater portion of the day, followed by increasing cloudiness and threatening weather in the Lower Lake region by Wednesday morning. For the southern portion of the Middle States and thence southward over the South Atlantic States, cloudy weather with areas of rain or snow, and fresh to brisk northwesterly to southwesterly winds, will be immediate coast. For the Eastern Gulf States and thence northward over the States of the Ohio valley, northerly to westerly winds, and generally cloudy weather and rain, followed by clearing weather in the lower Mississippi valley. For the northwest and the Upper Lake region less pressure with high changes in the temperature and partly cloudy weather, except from Lake Michigan southwestward to the Missouri valley; in this region threatening weather and rain or snow will prevail. For the middle regions of the New York and Pennsylvania the temperature will remain below freezing point.

Midnight Bulletin.

DECEMBER 22, 1873—10:48 P. M.

PLACE OF OBSERVATION.	Ther.	Wind.	Weather.
Cairo, Ills	35	N.	Cloudy.
Cincinnati, O	36	S.	Cloudy.
Davenport, Iowa	32	N.	Cloudy.
Keokuk, Iowa	35	S. E.	Cloudy.
Leavenworth, Ks	35	S. W.	Cloudy.
Galena, Ills	30	S.	Cloudy.
Memphis, Tenn	38	N. E.	Cloudy.
Nashville, Tenn	40	Calm	Cloudy.
New Orleans, La	0	N. W.	Cloudy.
Omaha, Neb	35	S	Threatening.
Pittsburgh, Pa	49	N. E.	Clear.
St. Louis, Mo	34	N.	Cloudy.
Vicksburg, Miss	44	S. E.	Cloudy.
Indianapolis	35	N. E.	Cloudy.
Shreveport, La	41	N. E.	Cloudy.
Galveston, Texas	44	N.	Clearing.
LaCrosse	31	S.	Cloudy.
St. Paul	25	W.	Cloudy.
Yankton	32	S. W.	Cloudy.
Ft. Sully	21		Cloudy.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Philadelphia dock laborers struck yesterday, resisting a reduction of wages from thirty to twenty cents per hour. One steamship company is paying thirty cents to secure the unloading of their vessels arrived on Saturday, but another company has obtained all laborers needed at twenty cents. The strikers threaten to force the latter to stop work.

The steamships Georgia, from Glasgow, and Celtic and City of Chester, from Liverpool, arrived at New York yesterday.

Outstanding legal tenders amount to $376,194,962.

News has been received from San Domingo that General Ignacia Gonzales has been elected President of the Republic. The new administration will probably endeavor to annul the Samana lease.

A large number of stevedores struck at Philadelphia yesterday, because their wages had been reduced ten cents an hour, and marched along the docks assaulting those who remained at work. The police dispersed the rioters and arrested the ringleaders.

POLITICAL.

State.

Now that John W. Forney has adopted the new Constitution, what new world will he next conquer?

Dr. Strawbridge is the third member of his family who has represented Danville in Congress.

Hon. Myer Strouse is laying the wires to secure the Democratic nomination for Congress in the Schuylkill district.

General.

They are talking of running Gen. John C Breckinridge for governor in Kentucky.

The temperance people of Kentucky have called a State Convention, to meet at Frankfort on January 8.

Tammany turning its back on Fernando is a truly edifying spectacle. It reminds us of a coal-scuttle refusing to hold the poker.—*New York Graphic.*

Gen. Godman, the examiner appointed by the State to investigate Butler county rascalities, reports that: "Thus far, * * * every officer in Butler county, whose books I have examined, proves to be a defaulter." This is a nice showing for the great Democratic stronghold in Ohio.

The back-pay bill stands out a distinct and indefensible scandal in legislation, an unqualified outrage on the moral sense of the community. It is idle to suppose that any amount of congressional laughter, or any mock-heroic attitude of defiance will divert the public mind from its single, fixed purpose of having this obnoxious salary law repealed.—*Boston Herald.*

The facetious Congressmen who think back pay such a good joke, and are cracking such side-splitting jokes on their fellow-members who have taken the matter more seriously, will be laughing out of the other side of their mouths before they are two years older. The average constituent doesn't appreciate that quality of humor.—*Springfield Republican.*

W. M. GORMLY, ESQ.,

For City Controller.

MESSRS. EDITORS: At the solicitation of many friends, I have consented to allow my name to come before Councils on Wednesday next, for the position of City Controller. W. M. GORMLY.

CRIMES.

Jury Disagree in the Walford Murder Case.

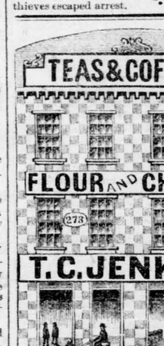
Special to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

ZANESVILLE, O., December 22, 1873.

The jury in the Walford murder case, after being out forty-eight hours, came into court this afternoon, informed Judge Frazier that they were unable to agree, and were discharged.

Cincinnati Postoffice Robbed by Daylight.

CINCINNATI, December 22.—The money order department of the Cincinnati postoffice was robbed to-day, in broad daylight by three smart thieves of eight hundred and fifty dollars lying on the desk in envelopes. The desk was surrounded by an iron lattice which was covered with paper. Two thieves attracted the attention of the clerks, and a third thief extracted the bills from the package and drew them through the lattice-work by means of an instrument resembling tweezers. The thieves escaped arrest.



THE GREAT

White River Flour

MANUFACTURED UNDER

MY NEW PATENT.

I will Guarantee this Flour

To make More and Better Bread than can be made from any other Flour in the country for the same Money Refunded if Flour is not as represented.

25 Cents per Barrel on Flour

FOR PROMPT CASH.

Remit by Exchange on Pittsburgh or by Express. All Groceries Low.

No Charge for Drayage.

NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY.

Annual Meeting in New York.

Speeches by Sumner, Sherman and Beecher.

Annual Installation of Officers.

NEW YORK, December 22.—The sixty-eighth annual celebration of the New England Society was held this evening, Elliott C. Cowden presiding. Among those present were Senator Sumner, General Sherman, Rev. H. W. Beecher, Judge Brady and Judge Davis. The president delivered the annual address, at the conclusion of which the first toast of the evening was announced: "The Senate of the United States." Senator Sumner, in responding, said: "You bid me speak for the Senate of the United States, but I feel that the least I shall say is the best [laughter], and that is good. The Senate is but a component part of the government of the United States, but here we speak of an event which marks an epoch in the history of mankind." [Applause.] After referring to the history of colonization by ancient and modern nations, he said these were prompted by conquest or commerce, but on the day we celebrate, the sun looked down on a sight never before witnessed. A few conscientious Englishmen, listening to the prompting within to worship God according to their conscience, sought by sea the distant wilds of the North American continent in the Mayflower, with Liberty at the prow and Conscience at the helm. He quoted the words of the chaplain of the colonists, that "God hath not revealed his whole will to the colonists, as a recognition of the great law of human progress." Miles Standish, the soldier sent back to England to raise funds brought back £100, which he raised at fifty per cent. "So much," said the speaker, "for a soldier on a financial expedition. [Laughter.] That company of men, taking little beyond their breath from the old country, are become famous beyond the lot of men, showing that their truest greatness is that which proceeds from the soul of man. Monarchs and soldiers fade away, but the pioneers of progress who secure the rights of man, so that the government of the people, for the people, and by the people shall never fade—these harbingers of progress shall never die. [Applause.] What were king, or pope, or duke, or landgrave, beside that humble company that sailed in the Mayflower? But the Pilgrims had an inborn power in themselves, and their landing on Plymouth Rock was an epoch. Who can speak of the contemporary rulers, save Gustavus Adolphus, except with contempt? Our forefathers have ascended into the firmament of ever-increasing light, while monarchs are ever descending into darkness. Thus moral triumphs, though retarded for a time, show fault in the end with ever-increasing strength. The principles of the Pilgrims equal laws and government by a majority of the people, have begun to leaven the whole continent, and in the end will leaven the whole world. [Applause.] Liberty is a plant which flourishes by the side of justice. Do not forget that where is the highest morality, there is the greatest liberty. [Applause.] A great poet speaking of liberty said: 'But who loves that must first be wise and good.' If liberty is fading anywhere on this continent, perhaps in the South American Republics, it is because they had no Pilgrims to teach the moral lesson. Then," he said, "I cannot forget

The Daily Commercial.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1873.

Motto for Congressional back-paysters:
"I know the right, and I approve it too;
I know the wrong, and yet the wrong pursue."

We have had a surfeit of fine phrases in Congress since the assembling of that body. Now, when the holiday recess is over, let it give us some fine deeds.

The New York *Herald* is at it, again, manufacturing news from Madrid. Distrust every thing in the shape of news, in these times, that owes its parentage to that sheet.

The County Commissioners will please accept our thanks for their renewal of good will and confidence, as expressed in their action yesterday, in reappointing the COMMERCIAL as one of the official papers to do the county printing.

Bill Allen informs an interviewer that "age does not incapacitate me. Many of the ablest men of Europe are older than I am." The ancient Governor evidently does not understand that it is quite possible for two men to be in the same boat, and yet row with very different skulls.

"Such a man as Randall disgraces his State as much as he does the House."—*Springfield Republican.*

This is probably pretty nearly the truth; but you couldn't extract such an admission from the Democracy of Pennsylvania, with the strongest kind of a wrench.

Hon. Wm. H. Armstrong, of Lycoming, was erroneously reported as limiting his political aspirations to a seat on the bench of the Supreme Court. He aims higher, however, and is a candidate for Governor. We commend to his attention the wise counsel contained in the Western adage—"Hold your hosses!"

The Illinois Farmers' Association, which recently met in that State and framed a political platform, is a separate organization from the "Grangers," although often confounded with them. It appears to be composed mainly of Democratic politicians, who have stolen the livery of the farmers to serve their party in.

Wendell Phillips imagines that he has discovered a way in which to build a house without any foundations. He wants a system of finance which shall have no specie basis to encumber it. When the winds came he would speedily discover his structure to be of a piece with the brain that coined the plan—flighty.

A Democratic paper before us is hopeful that some good will come out of its party, yet eighty Democratic members of the House voted for Fernando Wood, while only fifty of them voted against a reduction of expenditures. It is concluded that thirty of the eighty must already have experienced a slight change of heart.

Complaint is made in Boston that a large proportion of the names found on the jury lists belong to street-corner loafers, bar-room bullies and others equally unfit to pass upon the rights of reputable citizens when in dispute. A desire is manifested to know how the names of such persons are placed in the lists. This curiosity may be impertinent, but it is quite natural.

The President, it is gratifying to know, fully agrees with Mr. Dawes, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, in regard to efforts for greater economy. He expresses the opinion that if Congress would put the knife to the throat of most of the "jobs" presented, fresh taxation might still be avoided; a conclusion in which most people will be apt to cordially concur.

The people of the town of Henderson, Texas, had a real old fashioned Democratic celebration over the recent Bourbon victory in that State. They made a bonfire of a colored school house, mobbed the "Yankee" teacher, and wound up the festivities by hanging a "Radical" negro. Then—their cup of rejoicing being full—they quietly retired to their couches, to dream over their glorious victory.

We notice that some Republican papers command Congress for rushing like a flock of sheep into the support of a resolution for a recess of nearly two weeks, on the ground that the country is better off when that body is not in session. The compliment is of a very dubious character, it is true, but the argument proves too much; since, if it be sound, we should be still better off with no Congress, or a session of thirty days.

The prospects of our export trade for the winter are unusually favorable. The wants of European consumers are so pressing, and the supply is so limited, that it is a matter of extreme importance to obtain every available bushel of grain in any part of the world. The activity of our foreign export trade during the winter will only be limited by the means of transportation and the stocks that may be available in the leading receiving and distributing centers in the interior.

The latest weekly bulletin of the Patrons of Husbandry shows the continued rapid growth of that organization. The total number of granges now in operation is 9,297, with a reported membership of 607,275. There are indications, however, that the movement is gradually drifting in a direction where it will ultimately lose a large part of its original supporters; for, having started out as an anti-monopoly movement, it now wants to make a monopoly out of the agricultural interests of the country.

The whirligig of time brings about its revenges. When Congressman Rainey, a colored member from South Carolina, rose in the House the other day to plead for the passage of the Civil Rights bill, Beck, a Democratic member from Kentucky, who had just concluded a furious tirade against the measure, suddenly rose from his seat and left the hall. There was a profound historical significance in the ex-slave, now a representative of the people, to one who was formerly, it is stated on good authority, a slave overseer. Perhaps he felt it, troublously.

We see it stated that, upon the reassembling of Congress, a bill will be introduced providing for taxing the insurance interests of the country, under the direction of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue. The annual income from insurance, it is estimated, is about $200,000,000. The successful initiation of such a national taxation would probably lead to the establishment of a government supervision under a National Insurance Bureau, to which all companies would be compelled to report, the appropriate tax for each company being made up and collected through the collectors of internal revenue. It is understood that the National Board of Fire Underwriters have appointed a special committee to go to Washington to remonstrate against the passage of the bill, with such facts as are at their command.

The voice of the people all over the country, as expressed through the representative press, is unmistakably hostile to the imposition of new taxes. The demand is universal that Congress shall cut the national expenditures down to a level with the receipts, instead of bringing the latter up to the former. On almost every hand, moreover, there are numerous indications of improving business, which will naturally tend to give increased ease to the treasury. On the whole, it seems likely that—if proper retrenchment and economy are observed—with the probable absorption of part of the $20,000,000 loan of 1858 in the new five per cent. bonds, and the expected reduction of $20,000,000 in next year's estimates, the necessity for revenue to meet an anticipated deficiency will have passed before the treasury reserve is exhausted.

With some "Reformers" the remedy for every evil is "a law" of some kind, their idea being that whatever is forbidden by law ceases thereafter to exist. With another class of "Reformers" the multiplication of oaths seems to be the great remedy. Ex-Chief Justice Black and Mr. Buckalew are of this class, and they would cure every present evil in the body politic by the administration of oaths. Yet experience proves that men become so familiar with oaths as finally to disregard them. The case of Gage, the defaulting Treasurer of Chicago, is directly in point. He was required to go before a notary every month and swear that he had not appropriated any of the city money to his own use, with the penalty before him that a violation of this oath was wilful perjury; yet he took this oath as regularly as the months recurred, and just as regularly appropriated the city money to his own use. Familiarity with the oath bred contempt for it.

The Supreme Court of the United States has within a short times past rendered five decisions which are of considerable importance as related to the question of local taxation. The first of these decisions denies the right of States to tax imported goods in the original packages, on the ground that the right to import carries with it an unrestricted right to sell. The second denies the right of States to tax national property, or the national credit (bonds), on the ground that the right to tax carries with it the right to destroy. The third decides that the port of registry of a vessel is its proper domicile for purposes of State taxation; the fourth denies to States the power to tax bills of lading and all forms of commercia paper between States, as a restriction on domestic commerce; and the fifth denies extra-territorial operation to the tax laws of a State, and under that head denies the right of a State to tax a corporation on its bonds or stock, or their coupons, which are held out of the Commonwealth. All these decisions are of general public interest and consequence.

THE CONTEST IN FRANCE.

A few days ago, a cable dispatch from Paris stated that the men of the Right, discouraged or frightened by the remarkable success of the Republicans in the late elections to fill vacancies in the Assembly, had resolved to propose such a limitation of universal suffrage as would deprive four millions of citizens of their electoral franchise. A still later dispatch mentions the purpose of the Right to restrict suffrage—as having been already reduced to a project or form of law submitted to the council of State by the MacMahon government. Whether any such plan is seriously entertained or not may be a question, but there is no room for doubt that, the monarchists who prolonged the power of MacMahon, are deeply despondent and perhaps really anxious in view of the evident expansion of what is called Republicanism among the electors. It also seems likely enough that, in the restriction of the right to vote among the class or classes whose Republican proclivities are plainly incurable, they may see the only available method of preventing complications very embarrassing to the President. At the same time, the attempt to limit universal suffrage is probably a measure which the most reckless or daring of the Royalists can not contemplate without the gravest apprehensions. At different times within the last two or three years, two ways have been suggested in which suffrage might be limited with least offense and with most likelihood of excluding objectionable voters without affecting voters already favorable or easily rendered favorable to the existing government. The ways proposed are, first, to fix political majority—that is the right to vote at—the age of twenty-five years instead of twenty-one as at present; and, second, to require a residence of three years in the electoral district. While the first of these changes would affect all classes alike, the second condition would affect exclusively or chiefly the artisan (ouvriere) class, whose employment renders unavoidable a frequent change of abode on the part of many of them. Agricultural laborers, on the other hand, are usually as stable as their fields and cottages, and are besides so conservative that their support may be confidently looked for by the powers that be, little mat er who or what the powers happen to be.

Whether already a movement or not, an attempt to limit universal suffrage so plainly belongs to the policy of the Right that no one, either in France or elsewhere, need be surprised to hear of its being made. It is already manifest, indeed, the Royalists make no secret of the fact that, under the MacMahon government, the struggle is still to go on for the restoration of monarchy. Ten days ago, a petition, bearing 120,000 signatures, and asking for a king, was presented in the Assembly by the deputy, M. Dahirel, and we shall likely soon hear of counter-petitions yet more numerously signed. In fact, it was indiscreet of the monarchists to invite a contest in the form of petitions. As a Republican journal has remarked, it challenges a comparison unfavorable to the Royalist party. If the question were to be decided by mere numbers; if petitions signed only by actual electors were to settle the form of government, the Republican triumph would be easy. The strength of the monarchical party does not consist in its numbers, as many members of the party would probably admit. Whether they are strictly correct in claiming as they do to have on their side a majority of the thoughtful and rigorously moral elements of the population, with a preponderance of the national wealth, is a question at least doubtful, and one, besides, with which a foreigner cannot safely meddle. Any useful discussion of the subject would have to begin with careful definitions of some of the adjectives used in stating the question. In favor of a part of the Royalist claim it may be urged, indeed, is urged with decided plausibility, that the sympathies of the feminine moiety of the people are unmistakably with the champions of monarchy. If this were really the case, the question as to which of the parties is the more moral and religious might be considered as settled. The truth, however, appears to be that French women are for the most part in politics adiaphorous, concerning themselves little if at all with the subject, and quite free from those clear convictions which distinguish their sisters in some other countries. But this statement must be somewhat restricted in two directions. The women of the ouvriere or workman class are fierce politicians, thinking and going hand in hand with their fathers and brothers. In this respect they are true to the traditions of their revolutionary grandmothers, and as *petroleuses*, etc., have brilliantly exemplified their grandmothers' spirit as displayed with different weapons. *They* had no petroleum. At the other extremity of the social scale, the ladies of the nobility, old and new, especially those of the old, appear to be vehement and uncompromising politicians, and as the supporters of Comte Chambord they are believed to have exerted a very powerful influence. Their loyalty is dedicated to several causes. The pomp and splendors of a court no doubt possess for many of them congenial attractions, but the more important motive which animates them is perhaps their devotion to the church. No one needs to be informed that Henry V. is not only an exceedingly pious, but a transcendantly orthodox man, whose piety and orthodoxy have been recognized by the very highest authority as worthy of admiration. It is, therefore, no wonder that a great number of the ladies of Nantes, in the enthusiasm of their piety and patriotism, undiscouraged by what has happened, and compelled by the Count's suicidal letter, are still determined to have him for their King. Their task would seem to be a hopeless one; perhaps their faith is that of "the impossible." At any rate, on the fete day of Sainte Elizabeth of Hungary they addressed to Monseigneur one of the most fervent petitions Henry V. can ever yet have received. Beginning with a prayer to God to accord the hour of his return, they "implore Monseigneur to come and teach them to become a nation truly christian and French, that the hearts of all may soon in unison repeat: 'Long live Henry V.'"

While not exactly blaming the ladies for their act, some Frenchmen comment on the petition in terms which would be very offensive to many American women. "It is," says one, "so easy, and it ought to be so sweet, not to be forced to touch politics!" But this cynical commentator forgets that if French ladies had not displayed their partiality for Henry V. the fact could not have been alleged as one evidence of the pre-eminently religious character of the Royalist party.

ATTORNEY GENERAL WILLIAMS.

The prospect at Washington for the confirmation of the nomination of Attorney General Williams, as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, is so unpromising that the President will probably withdraw it when the Senate meets again.

No one is inclined to believe the personal charges made against the Attorney General. He has, in all his public life, preserved a high character for personal integrity and purity, and if there were no other objections than these to his confirmation, they would not weigh against him in the balance.

The real reason that weighs against his confirmation is that the Senate feels, and the country feels, that there are men better fitted for the place, and that the selection should be made from among them. The personal worth of the Attorney General is conceded, and it is also frankly admitted that he possesses legal ability of a high order. Of a very high order, we might say, but yet not of the highest; and as the Chief Justiceship is the highest legal position that is attainable, there is a very natural repugnance to putting any man in it whose name does not carry with it the conviction that he is the right man for the place. Unfortunately, the name of the Attorney General does not carry that conviction with it, and the President should relieve the Senate from the unpleasant task of saying no to his confirmation.

The Chief Justiceship is a place of so much importance, and is held in such great esteem, that a nomination for it should be of such a character as to command instant and general approval. A nomination that has to be higgled over for a month must be regarded as defective, and, even if confirmed, would carry with it a degree of doubt in the public mind that is little short of condemnation. There are, at least, a dozen of names from which the President can pick either of which will go through the Senate without delay, and that is the list to pick from.

Thurlow Weed, the veteran journalist, has written a letter to the New York *Tribune*, in which he discusses the destitution among the laboring classes, and the means at hand for their relief. Among other things he demands the repeal of the eight hour law, and calls upon the Legislature to "declare illegal all combinations to limit, restrict, restrain or embarrass master mechanics from receiving as many apprentices as may be required for the successful carrying forward of the various industries of our country." He is right. In a few years, if the tyrannical restrictions now imposed by trades' unions upon master mechanics in regard to apprentices, are not removed, we shall have hardly any American artisans and mechanics at all, who are worthy of the name.

VOTE ON THE CONSTITUTION.

We have the following official return of the popular vote on the Constitution:

	For.	Against.
Allegheny	18,062	1,858
Philadelphia	29,144	24,994
Lancaster	8,102	4,447
Dauphin	3,719	4,032
Mercer	3,894	2,104
Washington	4,626	638
Northampton	3,946	2,511
Lehigh	3,072	1,897
Erie	6,631	742
Blair	1,782	2,383
Northumberland	3,173	1,624
Perry	1,491	1,076
Berks	9,114	1,956
Lycoming	2,814	1,747
Huntingdon	2,468	494
Fulton	898	99
Union	1,599	317
Montgomery	6,354	2,999
Bedford	2,211	774
Centre	1,895	114
Clearfield	1,425	1,222
Franklin	3,901	1,175
Mifflin	1,396	102
Schuylkill	6,156	2,029

In these twenty-four counties the negative vote is 62,163; and the remaining forty-two counties will doubtless swell those figures to over 100,000, the total vote polled being about 350,000, or about half the actual voting force of the State.

The reading of the report of the Finance Committee, before the City Councils, yesterday, embodying the results of their investigation into the affairs of the Water Commission, was followed by the resignation of the entire Board of Water Commissioners. Mr. McGowan, City Controller, had tendered his resignation to the Finance Committee, and it was presented to Councils with the report. The resignations were all accepted. It will be seen by the report, which is printed in full elsewhere, that the Finance Committee have come squarely up the work, and have not attempted to screen anybody or hide any thing. The Committee, while censuring the Water Commissioners for their inexcusable negligence and dereliction of duty, yet recognize the fact that the Commissioners have rendered important services without compensation, and that no evidence whatever had been obtained against them of any complicity in the fraudulent transactions under investigation. The Controller is likewise censured for inexcusable negligence and dereliction of duty, but the committee state that nothing was discovered in the testimony to warrant any suspicion of intended dishonesty on his part. The Finance Committee recommend the abolishment of the Water Commission, and the adoption of some new plan for completing the water improvements.

The Boston *Advertiser* refers uncomplimentarily to the House of Representatives at Washington as a "demoralized Congress." It would be strange if it were not demoralized. Popular clamor forced an increase of its numbers from 242 to 292; a majority of the 292 being new men, there is necessarily a brisk rivalry among all of them to distinguish themselves, and there does not yet appear to be, in the entire lot, one man with force enough to impress himself upon this raw mass as a leader. In the course of time the House will settle down into more regularity, and will range itself under such leaders as it can find; but in the meantime there must unavoidably be a struggle to determine who the leaders shall be.

A Southern paper which claims to speak by authority, says of Jeff Davis that "he does not care to enter Congress and play the part of the Atturian parrot seen by Humboldt in the Azores, which spoke the language of the Atturians, an extinct Indian tribe, and whose words no one could understand." Just so. The sole shibboleth of the malignant traitor is now, as in the past, Rebellion and Slavery. If the nation having consigned these to the limbo of unremembered darkness, there is no medium through which Jeff can interpret himself to the country or the country to him. He is simply a mumbling monument of a great people's mercy to a halter-deserving wretch.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

When Congressmen so freely bandied the epithet "cur" the other day, did it follow that they were great thin curs?

So general are failures and defalcations, that every day is now "short."

Chicago will create the office of assisant city physician and give it to a lady-killer.

New York, not to be outdone by Boston and Philadelphia, is to have a centennial tea party of its own. The event will take place sometime during the holidays.

Memphis proposes to abolish its General Council. The papers demand that all fools and rascals shall be kept out of it.

Wendell Phillips, who claims to be a representative American, says we are "the meanest nation on the earth." But it isn't always safe to generalize from the individual.

New York has shut up her gaming houses. If her purpose is to put an end to gambling, she had better shut up Wall street—walling it in, and walling men out of it.

Julia Ward Howe, who is a matron of many years' experience, affirms that no woman can be brilliant after marriage.

Names are not things. One Bliss, living in Washington, horse-whipped his daughter in a neighbor's parlor, the other day, and he is to be arrested on complaint of the gentleman whose house he entered.

Don Piatt says his newspaper has sunk $16,000 for him. It hasn't sunk Don, however. That would be a difficult task. Not so much on account of his buoyancy, as for deeper reasons, however.

Cincinnati is becoming Chicagolized. Her thieves are in partnership with her policemen. A quantity of stolen goods was found, a few days since, at the residence of a patrolman.

The Chicago *Times* is engaged in classifying the great men of the age. For instance, it says: "George Francis Train, of everywhere, is the champion lunatic, and Horace H. Day, of New York, is the champion ass of America." We wait with intense interest to see what disposition the *Times* will make of John W. Forney.

The total number of furnaces in the United States, exclusive of abandoned and projected ones, is 636. The total number of new furnaces finished and put in blast in 1872 was 41; finished and put in blast in 1873, 42; total number of new furnaces put in blast in the last two years, 83.

Southern members of Congress are becoming consolidationists. They want a national quarantine law, being moved by the ravages of the yellow fever in that section last fall.

St. Peter was a plagiarist, according to a clergyman, who, at the meeting of the Methodist Preachers' Association in New York, last week, accused him of quoting from St. Jude without giving credit.

It is suggested that the tax on passports be imposed again and placed at $10. During the past year, 10,000 were signed at the State department and perhaps 5,000 by our ministers abroad.

The Chicago papers are pretty generally engaged in a struggle for the city printing, and the *Tribune* declares that the *Mail*, *Post* and *Inter-Ocean* are to be consolidated for the purpose.

The Michigan salt inspector inspected 823,346 barrels of salt during the year ending on the 15th, which is 98,805 barrels in excess of last year's product and the largest amount ever inspected in one year in that State.

It now seems that the buying of that cow for $40,000 was all a mistake. The agent who made the bid "became confused as to the relative value of dollars and pounds sterling, and bid far beyond his authorized limit."

A recent judicial decision places California in the list of States in which unceremonious marriages are declared to be legal.

The purchase by the Western Union Telegraph Company of the property of its only remaining rival, the Atlantic and Pacific Company, gives to the former the monopoly of the telegraph business of the whole country.

The total shipments of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal for 1873 show a falling off, compared with 1872, of 36,286 tons.

Inventors are so busy that unless some relief is soon afforded the Commissioner of Patents there is but little doubt that the Patent Office will be literally submerged and buried out of sight, as the number of cases coming in amount to over six hundred per week.

The *Atlantic Monthly*, for January, contains an able article by Professor Agassiz, in opposition to the Darwinian theory of evolution. It was to have been the first of a series, but alas! will be the last.

Well! An Illinois farmer has warmed his house and done all his cooking for over two years by natural gas which he discovered on his farm in boring a shaft for water.

Five hundred children of Havre have lost their fathers by the Ville du Havre disaster; and one hundred and ten widows have been made there. All of them—children and widows—have been reduced to abject poverty.

Arrangements are being made to hold an international Methodist camp-meeting at Round Lake, New York, July 8, 1874, and a general invitation will be extended to ministers and laymen of all branches of Methodists in the United States and British America.

Additional valuable discoveries of coal have just been made in Nebraska.

New Magazines.

The January number of *Lippincott's Magazine* commences a new volume of that monthly, and is full of interesting and instructive articles. It contains the continuation of "A New Hyperion," one of the most delightful and eccentric descriptions of European travel that has lately been submitted to the public. It is hand-somely illustrated by Dore in the peculiar style characteristic of that artist. An illustrated article is presented, describing the "Trianon Palaces of Versailles," which are noted for being the residence of Marie Antoinette, who figures in history as the presiding genius of this Eden in the Garden of Versailles. It was here that Marshal Bazaine underwent his trial. "The Necklace of Pearls," by R. H. Stoddard, and "The White Doe," a Florida legend, by Will Wallace Harney, are two charming poems. A story is contributed by the author of "Blindpits" and "Quixstars," entitled "A Wife's Revenge." "Japanese Fox-Myths" is an interesting and amusing article on Japanese mythology. A sketch of Chester Harding, the self-made artist, is also furnished. There is an article on "Monte Carlo," which, since the closing by the government of the gambling establishments at Baden Baden, has become the *dernier resort* of the dissipated fashionables who formerly flocked to the latter city every season. "My Christmas Ball," "A Statue of Shakspeare," and a beautiful sketch entitled "The Three French Marriages," together with the usual array of "Gossip" and "Reviews of New Books," go to make up an unusual brilliant number of *Lippincott's Magazine*, which is now winning its way to public favor as one of the most attractive of the periodicals. Every arrangement has been made for the new volume that is conducive to rendering it a compendium of all that is pleasing to magazine readers. A powerful new serial, "Malcolm," by George MacDonald, will be begun in the February number.

The January number of *Scribner's Monthly* has among its contributors Bret Harte, Gail Hamilton, Charles Dudley Warner, John G. Saxe, Colonel T. W. Higginson, George MacDonald, James Anthony Froude, John Hay, R. H. Stoddard, H. H., Frank R. Stockton, Adeline Trafton, Edward King, Rebecca Harding Davis, and Albert Rhodes. Bret Harte and Gail Hamilton contribute stories; Harte's being entitled "A Moute Flat Pastoral; How Old Man Plunkett went Home." George MacDonald contributes a poem suggested by a picture, by Thomas Moran, entitled "The Haunted House." There are poems, also, by Stoddard, Hay, Saxe, J. C. R. Dorr, H. H., and a nameless author who rhymes of "The Olden Time." Edward King, the writer, and Champney, the artist, gives us, in the Great South series, glimpses of Texas, and especially of San Antonio. Froude's study of the "Annals of an English Abbey" is completed. Warner prints his "Thoughts Suggested by M. Froude's Progress." Higginson's sketch of Warner is illustrated by a portrait. Rhodes tells us about speech-making in Congress. Stockton adapts Verne's story of "A Trip to the Moon." Miss Trafton and Mrs. Davis continue their serials, "Katherine Earle," and "Earthen Pitchers." In "Topics of the Time," Dr. Holland discusses Church Union, "The American Restaurant," and "Literature for Boys." In The Old Cabinet is something about New Year's, Christmas, and The Black-Heart Cherry Tree. In Home and Society may be found "A Word for the Poor," "Furs," and "Book Clubs." The scientific, critical and humorous departments are as full as usual.

The *Atlantic Monthly*, under its new auspices, is but little changed in appearance. The Boston *Advertiser* says: There is a slight, scarcely noticeable change in the color of the cover, and a new arrangement of the matter printed upon it, which gives more space to the index of contents. The imprint is

BOSTON,
H. O. Houghton and Company,
219 Washington Street,
New York: Hurd and Houghton,
13 Astor Place,
The Riverside Press, Cambridge.

Opening the number, we discover that it appears in the smartness of new type. Very distinct and neat it is, and much like the old that probably few would observe the change. Possibly constant contributors may find out that it will require a little more manuscript to fill a given number of pages. The question of copyright at the foot of the first page reads as if nothing had happened or was to happen. It is "entered, etc., in the year 1874, by James R. Osgood & Co." It remains "a magazine of literature, science, art and politics," though the political article is omitted from this number. There is nowhere any editorial allusion to the change of proprietorship, nothing to show that its aim and character will not be just what they have been for the past year.

The January number of *St. Nicholas* is announced as a "holiday number." It contains seventy pages, and the young folks will find in it a great variety of literary and pictorial matter nicely adapted to their peculiar wants. To enumerate all the articles would require too much of our space; but who does not know that any magazine containing contributions by Donald G. Mitchell, Lucy Larcom, Frank R. Stockton, John Hay, Mary L. Ritter, Mary M. Dodge, William Cullen Bryant, J. T. Trowbridge and Charles Dudley Warner, is worth anybody's reading? Almost every one of the articles is illustrated in a style not common in periodicals for children. *St. Nicholas* has a prosperous start, and there is no reason to doubt that it is destined to a long career of usefulness. *Our Young Folks*, which had just completed its ninth annual volume, has been purchased by Scribner & Co., and consolidated with *St. Nicholas*. Mr. J. T. Trowbridge, editor of *Young Folks*, will be a contributor to the magazine. The success of such a periodical will be as creditable to the youth of the country as to its enterprising projectors.

The *Galaxy*, with the January number, enters on the eighth year of its existence. It is different from other magazines in two noticeable particulars. It discards illustrations, and it has no distinct local atmosphere. It has always maintained a high character in its literary quality, and been the medium used by several distinguished public men to communicate to the public facts at once interesting and valuable in relation to matters of which they were personally cognizant. Now that Gideon Welles has concluded his review of Mr. Adams's eulogy of Seward, J. S. Black takes his turn, and, in that domineering, pungent rhetoric for which he is noted, proceeds to castigate both the living and the dead. Justin McCarthy's biographical sketches will be continued through the year. In this number he gives a pen-portrait and estimate of the Duke of Argyll. Although there is no article by General Custar, there is an announcement that his reminiscences of border experience are not exhausted. Richard Grant White continues "Talks About Words," answering questions by correspondents, and having something to say on many topics incidental to the general matter of word criticism. Richard B. Kimball, who will supply during the year articles on financial topics and practices, contributes to this number a paper on "Other Folks's Money," that ought to be generally read, especially by all who have savings to invest. There are several articles of less noticeable merit, with the usual relief of stories and poetry.

The fact is becoming more generally recognized every year that *Littell's Living Age* affords the best, and, all things considered, the *cheapest* means of keeping well informed in the most valuable current literature—a literature that embraces the productions of the best writers in science, fiction, poetry, history, biography, politics, theology, philosophy, criticism and art. The list of some of the distinguished authors represented in its pages includes the most distinguished names known in literature. The new series of the *Age*, which was begun January 1, 1873, already embraces serial and short stories by eminent French, German, Russian and English novelists; and, during the ensuing year, as heretofore, besides the choicest fiction by the leading foreign authors, the usual unequaled amount will be given of the ablest essays and reviews, the best poems, the finest sketches of travel and discovery, and the most valuable historical, biographical, scientific, and political information from the pens of the foremost living authors. The extra inducements to subscribers for the ensuing year are worth noticing. The amount of the best current literature of the world, thus offered, certainly cannot otherwise be obtained so economically. The terms of the *Living Age* are $8 per year. Address Littell & Gay, Boston.

James Sutton & Co., No. 58 Maiden Lane, New York, publish the *Aldine*, a monthly periodical which has attained a very high reputation for its rich illustrations and fine typography. The *Aldine* reproduces some of the most popular works of American artists, and gives many admirable specimens of foreign work also. As it is not for sale in single numbers, a year's subscription would be a very nice holiday present. Every subscriber for 1874 will receive a pair of chromos, reproduced from Thomas Moran's paintings of "The East" and "The West," which were executed especially for the proprietors of the *Aldine*. Brown & Holdoway, Nos. 6 and 8 Sixth street, are the agents for this city.

The table of contents of the *Popular Science Monthly* for January embraces many excellent articles from able writers. Elias Lewis, Jr., has a paper "Concerning Serpents," with illustrations. Prof. Clark Maxwell contributes one on the "Theory of Molecules." "Past and Future of a Constellation," from the pen of Camille Flammarion, with illustrations, is very interesting. Herbert Spencer has "Replies to Criticisms." The other topics treated of are "Genesis, Geology and Evolution," by the Rev. George Henslow; "Growth and Decay of Mind," "An Episode of Rats," with illustrations; "The Primary Concepts of Modern Physical Science—Inertia and Force," by J. B. Stallo; sketch of Dr. J. W. Draper, with portrait; the Editor's Table, Miscellany and Notes.

LARGE SALE OF COAL LANDS.

The Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company Sell On Their Wyoming Coal Lands to the Honey Brook Coal Company.

The Mauch Chunk *Coal Gazette* of the 19th inst. says: "For several months rumors have been circulated to the effect that the Central Railroad of New Jersey were negotiating with the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company for the sale or lease of their valuable coal property. Of late these reports were more industriously circulated, and early last week there was a perceptible movement upward in Navigation stocks. On Thursday it was announced that the Lehigh Coal and Navigation had sold all their Newport and Hanover coal lands and their leases at Plymouth to the Honey Brook Coal Company, which is controlled by the Central Railroad. We are not able to give the figures officially, but we are reliably informed that $4,750,000 is the price paid. This sum will pay the floating debt of the company and leave a large enough surplus in the treasury to pay a ten per cent. dividend next May. Some six thousand acres in fee of coal lands are included in the purchase, to say nothing of the Plymouth property. Owing to the fact that the Central Railroad of New Jersey has the best facilities for carrying coal from the Wyoming region, this transaction will prove a most valuable one to the company. It gives them full control of the transportation of an immense quantity of coal from the mines to the tide, and they will also make a handsome profit as miners. The Honey Brook Coal Company, which has become one of the great mining companies by this transaction has heretofore had its headquarters at Audenried, in this county, where it has several slopes and a large vein of excellent coal. Mr. E. B. Leisenring, the son of Judge Leisenring, is the Superintendent at Audenried. The Honey Brook has been one of the most successful of companies, partly because of its good coal, and partly because it has always been well managed.

"The Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company stock advanced rapidly from 28 to 36½ on account of the sale. There are rumors that the company intend leasing their Summit Hill works, but the report was not confirmed upon inquiry at the offices."

PERSONAL.

The Emperor of Brazil will be very much grieved to hear of the death of Agassiz. When the great savan was at Rio Janiero, Don Pedro considered his society an honor, and, as every morning he strayed through the market, the old negresses crowded "the good professor," showing him their fishes, and glad to receive his gently spoken thanks. When, as the Emperor was hurrying away to the river La Plata to give his attention to the troublesome Paraguayan war, Agassiz wrote him a note wishing him success, adding in a postcript: "Don't forget to bring back some fish." Don Pedro replied: "I won't forget the fishes, my good friend." Nor did he; the Emperor's fishes are now in the Cambridge Museum. When he lectured at the college the Emperor and his family were always present, and at the close they all gathered around him to warmly thank him fo the instruction he had given them.

Mrs. Thompson, daughter of the poet Burns, died at Cressmylood, near Glasgow, recently, eighty-four years of age.

The irrepressible Sam Bard has secured the appointment of postmaster at Atlanta, Georgia.

The British government has appointed Miss Pogson, the eldest daughter of the government astronomer of Madras, to be assistant astronomer at the government observatory. Under the instruction of such a teacher how delightful to take observations of Venus, and how intoxicating would become the contents of the "dipper."

The man in the iron mask was originally secluded on the island now occupied by Marshal Bazaine, and he was secluded so thoroughly that nobody ever learned who he was. Marshal Bazaine is not to be this fortunate.

Hon. Ronald Leslie Melville, who has joined the house of Jay Cooke, is a son of the Earl of Leven and Melville, who succeeded, late in life, to a Scotch peerage, on the death of his brother, whose son died in the Crimean war. The present peer, who is advanced in years, married secondly a daughter of Henry Thornton, M. P., a friend and coadjutor of William Wilberforce.

Treasurer Spinner still keeps as a relic the torn and blood-stained play bill with which Laura Keene attempted to staunch the wound of President Lincoln, in his box at Ford's theater, on the night of the assassination.

The report that Bjornson Bjornsen, the Norwegian poet, is coming to this country at the head of an organized colony, is authoritatively denied.

There is likely to be an assemblage in Washington in a few weeks that will be of social interest. Ex-President Fillmore and the survivors of his cabinet will meet for reunion.

The new French minister to the United States, Jean Francois Charles Bartholdy, has had a long diplomatic career. He is a lawyer by profession, but has served as translator in the Department of Foreign Affairs, Secretary of the Legation to Berlin, special agent to Turin, Vienna and Mexico, and also as Secretary to the French Embassy at St. Petersburgh. He has been a zealous Bonspartist but is now, we presume, a good enough Republican for MacMahon's purposes.

OHIO NEWS.

Seventeen persons were sentenced to the Penitentiary, in Cincinnati, in one day, recently.

The Ohio Constitutional Convention takes a holiday recess from the 23d inst. to the 6th of January.

The Niles Tool Works, of Hamilton, Butler county, with a capital stock of $200,000, in shares of $100, filed a certificate of incorporation on Saturday.

Three masked men entered the residence of Marshall Boles, living near Paintersville, Greene county, a few nights since, choked him and held him in bed while they robbed him of $68 78 in money, and notes to the amount of $1,300.

The editor of the Cambridge *News* is either a born Irishman, or should have been, as witness the following first-class "bull" from his paper, of the 18th inst.: "Professor Lewis Agassiz, the well celebrated naturalist, *was living, died* at his residence in Boston, last Sabbath, aged sixty-six years."

The thirty-seventh annual report of the Asylum for the Blind was sent to the Governor on Friday. During the year ending November 15th, one hundred and forty-one pupils were under instruction, thirty-five being new pupils. Of the latter, twenty-seven became blind from disease and eight from injuries, and six were congenital cases. The asylum is as full as it should be, and twelve applicants are waiting for the completion of the new building. The several sums expended during the year for the institution were as follows: Current expenses and salaries, $31,512; furnishing new building, $8,094; grading, cisterns, &c., $11,208; on new building contracts, $80,293. There is enough to the credit of the new buildings to complete it.

The report of Col. R. Burr, warden of the Ohio Penitentiary, for 1873, shows that the total receipts of the institution during the year from various sources, over and above the $74,000 expenditures for ordinary purposes, $152,163 94; balance of cash receipts over cost of maintenance, $22,286 57. But, of the last named sum, $13,551 08 was expended for a new workshop and the new chapel, and $8569 83 for books, etc., leaving a balance of $8,175 06 over all expenditures. Since 1865, when Colonel Burr became warden of the prison, there has been paid into the State Treasury $38,818 29. Under the law allowing convicts who are faithful and diligent in the performance of their duty to be paid at the time of their discharge a sum not exceeding one-tenth of their earnings, the average amount paid to discharged convicts in 1868 was $6 20 each; in 1869, $7 60 each; in 1870, $11 15 each; in 1871, $15 each; in 1872, $18 20 each; in 1873, $21 each. The number confined at the beginning of the year was 876. There have been received during the year 334. There have been discharged, pardoned, died, etc., 342, leaving in the prison at the date of the report 847 males and 20 females; total, 867. The average cost of food has been 13½ cents per day per man; the entire cost of maintenance per man, including salaries of officers, $167 08.

The pity that belongs to one man engaged in a brave but ineffectual struggle against overwhelming adversity should surely be given to the New York *World*. With an ability the more to be admired, inasmuch that it has to contend with hostile facts everywhere, it has labored to show that the Democracy has identified itself with the great reform sentiment that is possessing the people. It presented a beautiful ideal of a new Democratic party; purified by suffering, chastened by disappointment, with free trade and farmers' rights inscribed upon its banner, it enters the council of the nation the inflexible opponent of corruption and prodigality, of Credit Mobiliers and back pay grabs. This redeemed and purified party, as its first act, proceeded to proclaim, as its choice for presiding officer one of the leaders of the celebrated raid on the treasury, which in prose and song is renowned over the land as the "salary steal." The anti-climax is a severe one, and such a sudden bump naturally gives the "redeemed and purified" a pretty severe shaking. Moreover, the finger of scorn is uplifted, the sound of derisive laughter is heard, and the *World* is troubled.—*Baltimore American.*

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,
NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.
ASSETS JANUARY 1, 1873.....$778,251 56.
Chartered in 1852.
Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 9 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent., computed from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually, in January and July. Books of By Laws, &c., furnished at the office.
BOARD OF MANAGERS:
GEO. A. BERRY, President.
JOHN SCOTT, JAS. PARK, Jr., Vice Presidents.
D. E. MCKELVEY, Secretary and Treasurer.
A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. R. Wilson, John S. Dilworth, F. Rahm, C. Follansbee, Joshua Rhodes, S. H. Hartman, Robert C. Schmertz, Christopher Zug, John H. Bailey, Solicitor.

DRY GOODS
DRY GOODS, FOR Holiday Presents! AT Panic Pr

FINANCE AND TRADE.

MONDAY EVENING, December 22, 1873.

The local money market is quiet with little doing, the banks are discounting all the good paper that is offered by their regular customers, at the old rates. The only difference is that some names, which before the panic, were considered "good" must now be placed on a lower list. As a result the banks scrutinize more closely the names that are offered, but refuse no first class commercial paper.

In the stock market the temper of prices is governed by numerous causes that come and go in an hour's time, leaving behind a record in fluctuations apparently unaccountable. The government issues a million of currency, and the market advances in sympathy. A decrease of legal tenders of half a million is seen in the treasury report, and the market declines, as the bears think they see in this an indication of the future policy of the government. It is given out that action will be taken by Congress against an increase of the currency and in favor of a temporary loan for the purpose of retiring that portion of the forty-four millions already drawn upon and to meet the expenses of the government until the customs receipts and internal revenue shall have increased sufficiently to meet the expenditures of the government, the possibility of such action is taken advantage of by the bears to depress stocks. The right result is also beared down, by the sale of some millions of gold held by an over sanguine Spanish speculator who bought in anticipation of war as the result of the Virginia complications; and so the causes which act on the market have their effect and pass away before half the operators in the street know of them, and are not known here till they are forgotten in Wall street.

Judge Kelley manifests a determination to press in Congress his bill for convertible temporary loans to an early vote, believing that the country will soon recover i s wonted vigor and that increased taxation will be unnecessary. He thinks its wisdom can be clearly shown, and that it is not an experiment. He says that such temporary loans have been provided for by four successive laws. One of these, the *act* of July 11, 1862, provided for the holding of $50,000,000 greenbacks, in excess of the $400,000,000 in circulation, to be held exclusively for the prompt payment of temporary loans in case of emergency. Judge Kelley offered the following resolution in the House, and it was passed:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be and he is hereby directed to furnish this House with a statement of the total amount of money received on temporary loan, under the acts of January 17, March 17, and July 11, 1862, and the act of June 30, 1864, stating specifically the largest amount on deposit under each act at any time, the rate of interest thereon, together with the amount of said certificates presented for payment, exclusive of exchange for other securities, in each month while said certificates were outstanding; also, whether any of said certificates, and, if so, what amount, were paid and redeemed out of the redemption fund of $50,000,000, authorized by said acts to be held by the Secretary for the prompt payment of said temporary loans.

If Judge Kelley is correct in his opinion, his plan of temporary relief by short loans and by a rigid curtailing of the expenses of the government is certainly better than an increase of a taxation already burdensome to the classes of business which would have to bear the increase.

—The rumor concerning the lease of the Pacific & Atlantic Telegraph Company, which has been afloat for some days, is confirmed. It is confidently stated that the Western Union Company, the lessees, will soon resume dividends on their own stock.

The basis of the lease is a guaranteed dividend of four per cent. on the capital stock of the Pacific and Atlantic Company over half of which is owned by the Western Union. The announcement of the consummation of the lease has had no effect on the stock here, the knowing ones having long since made their purchases at low figures and sold out to the present lessees. Under the present arrangement the stock should settle to a quotation of from, ten to twelve dollars per share.

We have also a story on the stock circles that there is to be a fresh issue of stock of the Wabash Railroad Company, which caused a decline of the stock to the neighborhood of forty eight. But as there has been no meeting of the board of directors of the company of which we can hear, the report lacks confirmation.

—Saturday's report of the balances held by the Treasury Department shows a further increase of legal tenders to $370,877,000, an increase of $1,300,000.

—A bill has just been introduced into Congress for the payment of one five per cent. loan maturing the first of January, known as the "Fives of 1874," provides that the coupons shall be paid on their presentation by holders. The act appropriates $20,040,000 of the new five per cents, of 1881, or in proceeds to par for the liquidation of the maturing loans; or the option of exchange, or even term, is offered holders of the old bonds until the government is ready for taking care of the last of January interests, and also interest on the 1st of July next, when the option of exchange will expire, and if not availed of, the loan will be paid off in coin.

—The Treasurer of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company has given notice that the company will funn into 5-year 7 per cent coupon bonds, convertible into first mortgage bonds at par, and exchangeable for the lands of the company at 25 per cent. off, all interest on its bonds up to and including January 1, 1875.

—Congress having passed an act authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to exchange bonds of the loan of 1858, commonly known as fives of 1874, for new five per cent. bonds of the loan of 1881, and the Secretary is now making such changes on application cards.

—The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company has declared a dividend of five per cent., payable January 26.

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange, during the day. Furnished by Gold and Stock Telegraph Company, corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street:

	10:20	11:30	12:30	1:30	2:30	3:30
December 22, 1873.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Gold	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾
Canton	40	40	40	40	40	40
Western Union Tel	73¾	73¾	73¾	73¾	73¾	73¾
Quicksilver	27¾	27¾	27¾	27¾	27¾	27¾
Pacific Mail	36	36	36	36	36	36
Adams Express	50	50	50	50	50	50
Wells-Fargo Express	66	66	66	66	66	66
American Express	56¾	56¾	56	56	56	56
United States Express	50	50	50	50	50	50
New York Central	86¾	86¾	86	86	86	86¾
Erie	25	25	25	25	25	25
Michigan Central	90	90	90	90	90	90
Lake Shore	101	101	101	101	101	101
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	86¾	86¾	86¾	86¾	86¾	86¾
Chicago & Northwestern	65¾	65¾	65¾	65¾	65¾	65¾
Do preferred	86	86	86	86	86	86
Rock Island	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾
Ft. Wayne	90	90	90	90	90	90
Do preferred	100	100	100	100	100	100
Wabash	40¾	40¾	40¾	40¾	40¾	40¾
Do preferred	70	70	70	70	70	70
Fort Wayne	90¾	90¾	90¾	90¾	90¾	90¾
Ohio and Mississippi	30¾	30¾	30¾	30¾	30¾	30¾
Union Pacific	30¾	30¾	30¾	30¾	30¾	30¾
Chicago & Alton	100	100	100	100	100	100
Toledo & Wabash	41¾	41¾	41¾	41¾	41¾	41¾
Harlem	115¾	115¾	115¾	115¾	115¾	115¾

—The following are the quotations for Government and State bonds received by wire from New York to-day:

GOVERNMENTS	Morn.	Noon.	Even'g
1881, coupons	118¾	118	118¾
5-20s, 1862	112¾	112¾	112¾
5-20s, 1864	114	113¾	114
5-20s, 1865	114¾	113¾	114¾
5-20s, new	116¼	116	116¼
5-20s, 1867	117¾	117¼	117¾
5-20s, 1868	117¾	117¼	117¾
10-40s	110¾	110	110¾
10-40s, coupons	111¾	110¾	111¾
Currency 6s	123¾	123¾	123¾
New 5s	110¾	110¾	110¾
STATE BONDS.			
Tennessees	—	80¾	80
Tennessees, new	—	80¾	80
South Carolinas, July	—	11	10¾
Missouri 6s	—	92¾	92¾

—Robinson & Co., bankers, Fourth avenue, furnish the following report of active stocks at the Philadelphia Board:

Penna. R. R.	46½
Penna. Scrip	92¾
Reading	20¼
United Co's N J	118
Oil Creek	19¾
Lehigh Valley	58¾
Lehigh Navigation	36¾
A. V. R. R. 7-30	93¾
Central Transportation	41

Ex-Dividend.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, December 22, 1873.

The following are the entire receipts of the leading articles for this market, by river and rail, for the twenty-four hours ending as per 7 A. M. reports:

Flour, bbls	1,982	Wheat, sacks	1,466
Apples, bbls	258	Corn, sacks	640
Cheese, boxes	180	Oats, sacks	1,264
Butter, pkgs	41	Barley, sacks	2,864
Bacon, pcs	1,220	Rye, sacks	172
Bacon, lbs	700		

The market opened to-day rather quiet, the business being confined entirely to meeting the wants of the local trade. The roads continue in bad condition, preventing country buyers from attending market to such large numbers. Although high rivers are in good navigable condition, the effects upon the trade is not very perceptible. In the flour and grain markets the supply continues limited and prices are consequently very firm. The cold weather seems to prevail, and is favorable on many articles in the produce line, while in others it operates against the market. A general revival of our accustomed activity is not looked for during the next thirty days.

The following will indicate the state of the market in detail, together with the latest quotations, based upon actual sales:

ASHES.—The supply continues quite liberal and with a fair demand. Prices are steady. Sales continue fair at from $1 50@3 50 per bbl for common and lots, and $3 00@5 50 for prime and choice.

APPLE BUTTER.—The demand continues fair for the season, and prices are steady. Sales at 60@70c per gallon.

ASHES.—The market continues quiet, with but little doing. The nominal rates are: Soda Ash, common, 3½@4c; Refined, 5c; Potash, 9c; Pearl, 10c; Arsenic, 5c; Black Salts, 2c.

ALES.—The market is firm, with a fair demand. The card prices are as follows: XX, $3 75@4 bbl; XXX, $4 @4 50 bbl; Bass' English ale, in gilderkins of 22 gals, $22 50@24; bbls, 41 gals, $12 25@26 bbls, 29 gals, $9 50@10; 4½ in chests, bottles, $2 75; Wm Youngers' Imns pale ale in cases of 5 doz bottles, $5 @ doz; Robt. Younges of sparkling ale $5 @ doz; Guinness's stout, bottled by Jas A. Burke, $5 @ doz; Cantrell & Cochrane's ginger ale $2 25 @ doz; Cassweils, Hazard & Co's ginger ale $1 75 @ doz.

BEANS.—The demand is limited and the market is dull. Sales at $2@2 25 for fair to choice.

BOARDS.—Inches 25c @ ft.

BARREL MAKING POWDER.—Market steady; sales per doz ¼ lb cans, $1 40@1 75 do ½ lb 00; 1 lb do $5 50; 5 lb cans, $27 00 per dozen.

BROOM CORN.—Market quiet with sales red and red tipped 6¼@6½; fair to good green 7½@8¾. Hurl 9¼@10c per lb.

BACON AND PROVISIONS.—There is nothing specially new or important to note, and the market continues moderately active and prices are unchanged. Below are the current sales: Extra sugar cured hams 12½@13; shoulders extra sugar cured, 9½c; breakfast bacon, sugar cured, 11½@; dried beef, extra sugar cured, 15½c; bacon shoulders, 8¾@9; clear sides, 9@; short rib sides, 9¾@; clear sides light, 10@; mess pork $17 00 per bbl; hard, prime leaf in tierces, 9¾c per lb; prime leaf in half bbls, 10c; prime leaf in buckets, 10¾c; refined for sundries use in tierces, 9¾c; do in half bbls, 10c; do in buckets, 10¾c; refined in 3 lb cadities, 12c; do in 5 lb cadities, 11¾c; do in 3 lb pails, 13c; in 6 lb pails, 12¾c; ham sausage, 10c.

BUTTER.—The supply is slightly in excess of that of yesterday, but is not quite to the demand, and prices are therefore firm for the choice article. Sales at 3@32 for the lower grades.

CARBON OIL.—Market unchanged and prices firm. Sales at 17@17½ ₰ gallon at works and the usual advance for small lots.

CRANBERRIES.—The current rates are $10 to $13 per bbl; $3 50 to $4 per box.

CONCENTRATED LYE.—Dealers report sales at $7 50 @8 per case of four dozen packages.

CORN MEAL.—The supply continues to meet the demands of the market, with sales at $30 ₰ ton for unbolted meal, and in a small way at $1 50 ₰ cwt., from store.

CRACKERS.—Trade continues satisfactory. Prices for the following grades remain firm but unchanged. We quote: Lemon butter 11½c; ginger snaps 12@c; oyster crackers 7c; soda crackers 7c; sugar crackers 9½c; butter crackers 7c; zoder do 7¼c ₰ lb.

CLOTHES PINS.—We have nothing new to report in regard to this article. Prices were as follows: Beesen's Phœnix ₰ 3 00@3 50; Louisville ₰ 2 25@2 50; Roadside $4 00@4 50; white lime $2 00; calcined plaster $4 50; land plaster $3 00@3 50.

CHEESE.—Sales at 12½@13c; prime Ohio Factory, September make, 14½@15c to the trade, and 15@15½c for a jobbing way. Young American 18c; Nutmeg 17c; prime to choice Ohio Sweitzer 16 @18c.

DRESSED HOGS.—Sales at 5½@6½.

DRIED FRUIT.—Sales bright new crop apples at 6@6c. Peaches 10@12c for prime to choice.

EGGS.—The market continues quite active and with an average supply prices are firm but unchanged. Sales strictly fresh at 30c per doz, and packed at 26@28c.

FISH.—Prices remain unchanged. We quote: No. 1 extra mess mackeral $36; No. 1 mess do, $33; extra No 1 shore mackerel, $28; No. 1 shore mackerel, $23; extra No. 2 bay mackerel, $19; No 1 No mackerel, $17; extra No. 2 shore mackerel, $17; No. 2 bay mackerel, $14 large No. 3 mackerel, $13; No. 3 mackerel, $10; split Canada herring, $5 to $9; white fish, $7 50@8 00 lake trout, $7 00@7 50; large Georges cod fish $7 50@8 00; medium Georges cod fish, $6 @100; red herring, scale 500 ₰ box; No. 1 3 50 ₰ box.

FEATHERS.—There is little or nothing doing and can be quoted at 38@40c ₰ lb; No 2 C, 4½@35c as to quality and quantity.

FLOUR.—The arrivals continue liberal, and the demand is at only improving. The feeling on prices is still rather firm, and an early advance is anticipated. Below are the store rates:

State amber wheat	$8 25@8 50
State red wheat	7 75@8 00
Fancy St. Louis	9 25@9 50
Fancy Kansas white wheat	8 00
Good Ohio red wheat	8 00
Wisconsin Spring wheats	7 25
Minnesota Spring wheats	7 75
Rye flour	5 25

GROCERIES.—The market opens to day quiet with a regular demand to fill orders for the local trade. Coffee and sugar are still very firm at our quotations. Below are the current rates:

Coffee.—Green Rio coffee, ordinary, 20c; strictly prime 22c; prime 23½c; good 23c; fair 24½c; green Java 24@25c ₰ lb; roasted Rio in papers, 24c; in bulk 23½c; Java in papers, 40c.

Teas.—Young Hyson 50c@$1 10 ₰ lb; Gunpowder 50c@$1 10; Imperial 50c@$1 00 ₰ lb; Japan 55c@$1 00 ₰ lb; Oolong 25@50c ₰ lb; fancy $1 00 ₰ lb; Souchong 25@50c ₰ lb.

Sugar.—Standard Ex C 10½c; standard A 10¾c; standard A 10¾c; standard hards 11¼c.

Molasses.—Choice New Orleans 75c; prime 68@ 70c.

Syrups.—Extra White Drips 70c; Sugar Drips, 60c; Amber 60@65c; lower grades 50@55c, as to quality.

Rice.—Choice Caroline 8¾c; Patna 8c; Rangoon 7½c.

GAME.—The cold weather has a good effect upon the receipts, and the market is improving, although prices are without change. Below are the selling rates:

Squirrels.—$2 00 per dozen.

Rabbits.—$2 50 per dozen.

Quails.—$1 00 per dozen.

Wild Turkey.—$2 00@2 50 each.

GRAIN.—The receipts of all descriptions have increased materially, and the market continues strong for wheat corn and oats, which are quoted strong, but unchanged in prices. Below are the selling rates:

Wheat.—Red Winter at $1 50@1 55; Amber $1 65; and White at $1 70.

Oats.—Are in more liberal supply; we quote: Mixed at 42c; White at 50c, as per quality.

Corn.—Sales of old shelled at 56@57c, an advance; new ear sold at 60c; old would bring 65@70c; the market is bare.

Rye.—Nominal at 80@85c.

Barley.—In the absence of sales, we omit figures.

HOMINY.—The market has undergone no change; we are reported sales at $3 50@5 00 per bbl.

ONIONS.—Are in good supply with sales in a regular way at $4 00@4 50 per bbl.

PICKLES.—Medium, bbls, $10; medium half bbls, $6 50; half bbls Boston mixed, $6; pickles, plain or mixed, per dozen, $1 50; quarts, plain or mixed, $2 50; half gallons, plain, $; gallons, plain, $5 50; Hexagon gallons, mixed, $10; English chow chow, pints, $4 50; English chow chow, quarts, $6 00; English mixed pickles, pints, $3 00; English mixed pickles, quarts, $6 00; English cauliflower, pints, $3 00; English cauliflower, quarts, $6 00; English picalili, pints, $3 50; English picalili, quarts, $6 00; English white onions, pints, $4 50; English white onions, quarts, $8 00; English gherkins, pints, $3 25; English gherkins, quarts, $6 50; English Mofussli, pickles, pints, $4 50.

POTATOES.—The receipts are meager, but the market is well stocked, and prices continue steady. Small sales are made at from $1 15@1 25 ₰ bushel for fair to prime articles and mixed at 90@95 ₰ bush.

POULTRY.—The market is becoming more active, but prices are not higher. Sales chickens, dressed, at 9@10c, and turkeys at 14@15c ₰ lb.

SEEDS.—There is nothing doing in timothy, but there is some inquiry for clover. Flax seed is now quoted at $1 40@1 50 ₰ bushel.

WHISKEY.—Highwines are higher, with sales at $1 09@1 09 per gallon.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, December 22, 1873.

REMARKS.—The market was steady, without much change in the situation. Prices of crude in the oil regions correspond with yesterday's figures. According to dispatches received, a great deal of oil changed hands. Below will be found all the information we could ascertain:

CRUDE.

So far as relates to our own market, no sales were made public. The asking rates are 2½@3c. The following sales were reported at

PARKER'S.

2,000 bbls Union.....$1 05
2,500 bbls United.....95

For prices in the oil regions, see dispatches.

REFINED.

The market has undergone no change since our last. The nominal rates free on cars at works are 21@21½c.

Philadelphia—Quiet. S. W., 13½c; futures—January 13½c; February 13½c; March 14c.

New York—Market quiet; December 18½c.

OIL BARRELS.

Market fairly supplied, with sales: City $1 85; country $1 75.

[By Western Union Telegraph Line.]

TITUSVILLE, December 21.—The "Herald" says: The petroleum markets on Saturday were quiet and steady. Sales: On upper road (the main line) at $1 19@1 15. Oil City $1 10. Parker's closed quiet at 95c for United and $1 05 for Union pipe. Sales: 1,000 bbls, upper road, spot.....1 12½
1,000 bbls, upper road, spot.....1 12½
1,000 bbls, upper road, spot.....1 15
1,000 bbls, upper road, spot.....1 15
1,000 bbls, upper road, spot.....1 15
1,000 bbls, Oil City, spot.....1 10
2,000 bbls, Parkers, Union pipe.....1 05
2,500 bbls, Parkers, United pipe.....95

The market closed dull, at closing 20.—Market a trifle firmer; crude at 8¾@9c; refined, 13¾c; cases, small cargo 8,000 gold on private terms, 30@30½. Naphtha quiet at 8¾@9c. Philadelphia delivery 13¾c; sales 2,500 bbls refined, this month, 13¾c.

PETROLEUM CENTRE, December 22.—Market quiet at 95c.

TIDIOUTE, December 22.—Market quiet and unchanged at 95@95c.

OIL CITY, December 22.—Market quiet at $1 05.

ROUSEVILLE, December 22.—Market quiet at 95@95c.

TITUSVILLE, December 22.—Market dull and nothing doing; spot $1 12½@1 15.

PHILADELPHIA, December 22.—Market quiet: S. W., 13¾c; crude 4½c; cases 18c; sales noon bail; 10,000 bbls Naphtha quiet at 8¾

CITY MATTERS.

Voluntary Assignment.

A. McFarland, Esq., having been appointed assignee of Samuel Williams, the Court of Common Pleas yesterday appointed H. H. Nieman and Henry Myers appraisers to appraise the property of the assignor.

Singular Accident.

About a fortnight since, two daughters of Mrs. Hafley, residing in Penn township, near Milltown, were amusing themselves playing in a room, when the youngest, aged about eight years, turned around to go to the fire. In so doing, her foot caught in the carpet, and she fell, breaking her leg a few inches above the ankle joint. Dr. McGee, of White Ash, was called, and set the limb, and the patient is getting along well.

Mortuary Reports.

Dr. W. Snively, Physician to the Board of Health, reports a total of fifty-two deaths in this city for the week ending December 20th inst. Of these twenty-eight were males and twenty-four females, fourteen were married and thirty-seven single, and one widow.

The mortuary report of Health Officer Hoch, of Allegheny, for the past week is as follows: Total number of deaths, twenty-eight, of which seven were males and eleven females.

Bankruptcy Cases.

In the United States District Court, yesterday, the following bankruptcy petitions were filed with clerk McCandless:

Morris & Lewis, of Philadelphia, filed a petition in bankruptcy against S. Frankenstein, of Clarion county.

Morris A. Tynberg, of New York city, filed a similar petition against Abraham Simon, of Parker's Landing.

Cornell & Auerman, of New York city, also filed a similar petition against D. Harris & Bro. of Titusville. The usual orders were made.

Signed Too Hastily.

Several of the signers to the petition filed in the Court of Common Pleas, asking for an investigation into the alleged fraudulent election of Peter Bolster, of the Third ward, Allegheny, to the office of Alderman, have made affidavits before Alderman D. L. Smith, declaring that they signed the petition without being fully aware of all it contained, and now ask the court to strike off their names. They state that they had no actual knowledge of fraud, and some of them were not even at the polls. They understood that in signing the paper they merely asked for an investigation.

Appointments by the County Commissioners.

The Board of County Commissioners, Messrs. Jacob Stuckrath, Aug. Beckert and James G. Murray, yesterday made the following appointments:

Mercantile Appraiser—Mr. Benj. Waughter, Pittsburgh.

Directors of the Pennsylvania Reform School, House of Refuge—Messrs. Arthur Hobson, Allegheny; Moses Cness, Temperanceville; Wm. Barker, Pittsburgh, and John G Hillan, Upper St. Clair.

Publishers to do the County Printing—*Commercial, Gazette* and *Dispatch*, (English,) and *Tychelt's Freund*, (German.)

The Pittsburgh Association for the Relief of the Poor.

At a regular meeting of the Board, held December 19th, 1873, the following gentlemen were elected to serve as a committee to collect funds to enable the association to carry on its work during the winter:

Messrs. C. J. Clarke, Wm. McCreery, H. K. Porter, Dr Harris, Arthur Bell, Major Mathews, Dr. Jackson, Richard Waring, Rev. Dermott, Rev. Chris. Well, Joseph Albree, John McCreery, Richard Breed and C. L. Rose.

These gentlemen are earnestly solicited to meet Wednesday morning, December 24th, at 10 o'clock, in the rooms of the Christian Association. MRS. LEVI WADE, Secretary.

Holiday Rates on the Pennsylvania Railroad.

The tens of thousands who travel by the great Pennsylvania Central, the most complete and thoroughly equipped railroad in the country, will be pleased to learn that during the holidays excursion tickets will be sold to all points at *half price*. These tickets can be purchased at all the ticket stations on the main line and its branches, on the 23d, 24th and 25th insts., and are good until the 5th of January, inclusive. Parties availing themselves of this reduction should purchase their tickets before entering the cars, as conductors will only sell excursion tickets from stations where there is no ticket agent.

Coroner's Inquests.

Coroner McCallin yesterday held an inquest on the body of William Elliott. The deceased had been an inmate of the Allegheny Poor House for a long time and on Sunday morning left that institution to visit his wife and daughter who resided at Mansfield. Shortly after his arrival home he was taken suddenly ill, and in a few moments expired. His friends who were present testified that he had been afflicted with the consumption for seven or eight years, and the jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes. His remains were interred yesterday, and his wife, who was herself seriously ill and in destitute circumstances, was taken to the Poor House.

On Saturday night William Barnhill, a railroad watchman, found the body of a man lying on the track near Braddock's Station. The remains were gathered up and conveyed to Devore's undertaking establishment, where a jury was empaneled, but as important witnesses were absent the inquest was adjourned till eight o'clock last evening, when a verdict of accidental death was rendered. A watch, two letters, a memorandum book and $2 90 were found on his person. The letters were addressed to John Martin.

Bank Management.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

We have read your article on bank management, in Friday morning's paper. We are well pleased with it.

We attended the meeting of the creditors of the Security Trust Company, on Thursday last. For some reason the reporters were excluded, so that no report of its doings appear in the public press. The report of the Directors, submitted to the creditors, shows almost as bad management of this bank as the Nation Trust Company. With a capital paid in of $138,000, that Mr. Brady, one of the directors, owes the bank $150,000—just $21,000 more than the entire capital. This is the largest part of this indebtedness was with the knowledge of the Board—a Board that had sworn to observe the banking law. To show how they have kept that oath, let me quote section thirty-seven of the banking law:

"No director of any bank shall be a borrower in said bank, at any one time, for a greater amount than five per cent. on the capital stock paid in; and the gross amount loaned to *all the Directors*, and other officers of said bank, and to the houses or firms in which they may be interested, directly or indirectly, shall not exceed at any one time the sum of *ten per cent.* on the capital stock paid in." F.

GAS.

Annual Report of the Inspector.

The fourth annual report of Mr. Roland H. Smith, Inspector of Gas and Gas Meters for Allegheny county, has been printed in pamphlet form. The Inspector has but little to suggest to the Legislature, in addition to what he has urged in previous reports. The following extract is significant:

"As the law now stands, it makes it my duty to test the various gases as to the illuminating value and purity; and should any be found of a quality different from what the law requires, for each offence every gas company or companies furnishing such gas shall be subject to a penalty of five hundred dollars; but who or what authority shall impose such fine the Act of Assembly does not state, so that although nearly all our gas companies have at times furnished gas of a lower illuminating value than that fixed by law, there has as yet been no proposition instituted or penalty imposed by virtue of said Act of Assembly."

From the 30th of November, 1872, to the 30th of November, 1873, 2,539 meters were tested. Of this number, 2,325 were admitted and stamped, and 214 rejected. Of the meters admitted, 844 were found to register in favor of the consumer, 981 in favor of the Gas Company, and 499 were correct in their registration. Of the 214 meters rejected, 59 registered in favor of the consumer, 140 in favor of the Gas Companies, and 44 were either worn out, irregular in their registration or leaked.

The expenses of the office for the year were: salary, $2,500; other expenses, $2,175.92; total, $4,675.92.

EDUCATIONAL.

Washington County Teachers' Institute.

The Washington County Teachers' Institute convened in Providence Hall, yesterday morning at 11 o'clock. Opened by reading scripture, and prayer from Rev. Wm. Wier, of Canonsburg. After music from pupils of Canonsburg public schools, Superintendent Fee announced the following officers:

President.—Ex-Officio—W. G. Fee, County Superintendent.

Vice President.—Rev. C. L. Ehrenfeld, California.

Financial Clerk.—E. B. McElroy, West Middletown.

Roll Clerks.—P. H. O'Brien, Coal Shift; Q. C. Farguhar, Bentleyville; Simeon Ashrook, Washington.

Reporting Clerks, Ed. W. Mouck, Canonsburg; R. C. Wolf, Washington; J. A. Mickey, Buffalo; George K. Wilson, Millsboro.

Committee on Election W. C. Lyne, Washington; J. R. Bailey, Millsboro; Thomas Torrence, Florence.

Committee on Spelling, Dr. W. G. Barnett, Canonsburg; Hon. A. J. Buffington, Bentleysville; George Buchanan, Esq., Washington.

Committee on Reception, T. B. McCain, Burgettstown; David Griffith, Canonsburg; R. C. McConnel, Paris.

Committee on Obituaries—Henry Minton, Prosperity; Lizzie Shannon, Washington; Clara Burgan, Vanceville.

Committee on Resolutions—Rev. C. L. Ehrenfeld, California; Rev. Wm. H. Ewing, Canonsburg; Joseph Jennings, Bellsville; James Mickey, Buffalo; George E. Hemphill, Monongahela City.

Institute adjourned till 1:30 P. M.

M.

CITY COUNCILS.

A Short, But Decisive, Session

Resignations of the Water Commissioners and the City Controller Accepted.

Report of the Finance Committee.

The Water Commission to Be Abolished.

Election of a Controller Postponed.

A VERY SHARP DEBATE.

The Water Commission to be Allowed to Make a Statement—Another Meeting of Councils on Wednesday.

The City Councils held a meeting yesterday, and in action it was short, sharp and decisive. In joint session the report of the Finance Committee on the missing water bond question was read and considered, and an interesting and spicy debate occured. President Gross took the "bull by the horns" and was energetic in his endeavors to maintain order and keep the members to a strict compliance with the rules. Notwithstanding the excitement, confusion and bad feeling he was very successful and was highly complimented for his firmness.

SELECT COUNCIL.

This branch was called to order soon after two o'clock. After the call of the roll, the President, Dr. Gross, said: This meeting is called for the purpose of receiving the report of the Finance Committee in reference to the Water Commission.

On motion, the reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

Mr. McCune.—I move that the Common Council be invited to meet in joint session for the purpose of receiving the report of the Finance Committee. The motion was adopted, and C. C. was notified by Clerk Morrow.

JOINT SESSION.

Councils then met in joint session, President Gross and Negley in the chair.

President Gross—The joint session will now please come to order. We have met for the purpose of hearing the report of the committee, in reference to the water bonds.

Mr. Phillips—We are ready to present our report, and I would ask that the clerk read it. Accompanying the report is also the award of the arbitrators.

THE REPORT.

To the Select and Common Councils of the City of Pittsburgh.

GENTLEMEN: Your Finance Committee, to which was referred the investigation of the disposition of certain water bonds and deposits of certain moneys of the city with the Nation Trust Company, would respectfully report:

That in pursuance of the resolution of Councils of November 24th, ult., in relation thereto we entered upon our duties the following day, prosecuted the investigation of alleged irregularities, in the course of which we called and had examined before us a large number of witnesses, including the Controller, Water Commissioners and their Secretaries, the Directors, officers and clerks of the Nation Trust Company, excepting R. J. Grier, cashier, who could not be found, and all other persons having any knowledge or connection with this investigation so far as we could learn—and herewith submit the testimony, which is made a part of this report.

THE TRANSACTIONS OF ROSS.

In this investigation we learned, among other things, the following facts:

That John Ross, Secretary of the Water Commission, without authority, opened an account with the Nation Trust Company, in his own name, as secretary, on the 5th of May, 1873, and from that time till November 14th, 1873, had deposited, without the knowledge or consent of the Water Commission, so far as the evidence discloses, some $323,156.06, out of which he had drawn the sum of $84,000, leaving a balance therein of some $239,156.06; and also that said John Ross had opened an account in his own name at the Central Bank, where so far as the evidence shows, without the knowledge or consent of the Water Commissioners, he deposited the accrued interest of the Water Commission bonds sold by him; also the proceeds of certain bonds sold by Geo. B. Hill & Co.; and we further find that said John Ross, Secretary, did, without the knowledge or consent of the Water Commission, so far as the evidence shows, receive from the Controller of the city some $2,500,000, water bond loan of 1873, of which $10,000 were returned, and some $50,000 of the Thirty-third street improvement bonds, which the Commission for the improvement of that street, which bonds he did, without the knowledge or consent of the said Commission so far as the evidence shows, place in the custody of the Nation Trust Company, for the purpose of enabling them to use the same as collaterals in the negotiation of loans in Philadelphia for the use and benefit of said Trust Company. On account of the Thirty-third street bonds, $13,000 have been accounted for to the city treasury.

All which transactions were contrary to the laws and ordinances of the city, of all which he, from his position, could not plead ignorance.

During the investigation, at the instance of your committee, the City Attorney had the said Secretary arrested on information made for embezzlement, &c., and held for trial before the proper judicial tribunal of the county.

THE FINDING AGAINST THE WATER COMMISSION.

That the Board of Water Commissioner's having the sole control and power in the negotiation and sale of the water extension loan bonds of the issue of 1873, in dereliction of duty, authorized and negligently suffered and permitted the said John Ross, their said secretary, to obtain from the Controller of the city said water extension loan bonds, and for which the said Commissioners, or a majority of them, afterwards gave their receipts for said bonds to John Ross and by him delivered to the Controller.

And we further find that the said Water Commissioners have never themselves examined the books or the bond books of the said Water Commission, nor the books of the City Treasurer or Controller, in relation to the issuing and sale of said bonds, nor have they required from their said secretary any report or statement of his transactions in the sale or disposition of bonds and other doings. Neither did they ever require the semi-annual from the City Treasurer or City Controller statements in relation to the sale of Water Bonds and the proceeds thereof.

And we further find that said Water Commission have never complied with the ordinances of the city requiring them to report all sales of bonds to the City Controller within ten days after such sales, nor have they ever furnished to the City Councils a quarterly report of the business of the Water Commission, as they were required to do. Whilst the Committee recognize the fact that certain reports have been rendered by the members of the Water Commission, without compensation, *and have obtained no evidence whatever of any complicity in the fraudulent* transactions under investigation, yet the Committee find that the Water Commissioners have been inexcusably negligent and derelict of duty in the management of the financial department of the Commission; and we would therefore, recommend that the Commission be forthwith abolished and the duties for the time being, be placed in the hands of some one of the committees of Councils, until such time as Councils may by proper ordinance decree otherwise.

THE CONTROLLER.

And we also find and report that the Controller has been likewise inexcusably negligent and derelict in duty, in permitting and suffering Water Bonds to be received and taken from his office without first having demanded and received the proper vouchers therefor, as required by law. That the Controller without proper authority of law, but merely upon the estimate of the Civil Engineer did issue and countersign a warrant upon the City Treasury for about $50,000, without a certificate from the Water Commission, and although this neglect of duty on the part of a city official constitutes an offense so grave that it cannot be tolerated or excused, it is, nevertheless due to the Controller, (knowing the man as we do,) to say that there was nothing developed during the investigation thus far, to warrant any suspicion of any intended dishonesty on his part; and, in connection with this report, we herewith hand the resignation of the Controller, and ask that it be accepted.

THE DEBT OF THE NATION TRUST COMPANY.

As to the cash deposit account with the Nation Trust Company, in pursuance of the resolutions of Councils, passed December 8, 1873, accepting the proposition submitted by the stockholders of said company, said claim was submitted to the arbitrators therein named, who met and having heard the proofs and allegations of the parties, did, on the 19th day of December, A. D. 1873, find and award in favor of the city of Pittsburgh the sum of $238,904 02, being the amount deposited by John Ross with the Nation Trust Company as aforesaid, with accrued interest thereon to date of award; said award to bear interest until paid—the amount of the bonds hypothecated by the Nation Trust Company and belonging to the city of Pittsburgh being admitted, and the liability of said Trust Company assumed in the article of submission to arbitration; the amounts being as heretofore stated.

THE CONCLUSION OF THE COMMITTEE.

In conclusion we would respectfully recommend the appointment of a committee to devise a plan for the supervision and control of the construction of the new water works and submit to Councils the necessary ordinances for that purpose. We would also recommend that hereafter all Water Bonds be issued and sold by the City Controller under the direction and supervision of the Finance Committee, and that no bonds be issued until the City Treasurer has officially reported to the Controller of the new water works and for has been paid into the city treasury, and deposited in the city dispositories; and that a sub-committee of three members of the Finance Committee be appointed quarterly, whose duty it shall be to audit and report quarterly to councils, the condition of the bond accounts of the city; and that no bonds be delivered until the same has been registered by the Bond Clerk.

We would respectfully suggest that an ordinance be prepared and passed, to carry out the foregoing suggestions.

And we also recommend the adoption of the following resolution.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by Councils, for the purpose of preparing an ordinance repealing the Water Commission ordinance, or such part thereof as in their judgment may be deemed best, and to provide for the organization of a system or department for carrying on the work and the completion of the new water works.

W. Phillips, W. B. Negley,
E. P. Jones, David Aiken; Jr.,
J. H. Jones, G. Follansbee,
James Little, A. C. Hays,
R. H. Smith, C. B. Seely,
Edward House, J. R. McCune,
John Fleming, G. S. Fetterman,
A. H. Gross, Finance Committee.

Mr. Phillips—I move that the report be received and filed.

President Gross—We will first have read the resignation of the Controller.

The question then recurred on the reception of the report.

Mr. McCarthy—I ask is it simply the question on the reception of the report. The report does not carry with it the resignation of the Controller?

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And we also find and report that the Controller has been likewise inexcusably negligent and derelict in duty, in permitting and suffering Water Bonds to be received and taken from his office without first having demanded and received the proper vouchers therefor, as required by law. That the Controller without proper authority of law, but merely upon the estimate of the Civil Engineer did issue and countersign a warrant upon the City Treasury for about $50,000, without a certificate from the Water Commission, and although this neglect of duty on the part of a city official constitutes an offense so grave that it cannot be tolerated or excused, it is, nevertheless due to the Controller, (knowing the man as we do,) to say that there was nothing developed during the investigation thus far, to warrant any suspicion of any intended dishonesty on his part; and, in connection with this report, we herewith hand the resignation of the Controller, and ask that it be accepted.

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As to the cash deposit account with the Nation Trust Company, in pursuance of the resolutions of Councils, passed December 8, 1873, accepting the proposition submitted by the stockholders of said company, said claim was submitted to the arbitrators therein named, who met and having heard the proofs and allegations of the parties, did, on the 19th day of December, A. D. 1873, find and award in favor of the city of Pittsburgh the sum of $238,904 02, being the amount deposited by John Ross with the Nation Trust Company as aforesaid, with accrued interest thereon to date of award; said award to bear interest until paid—the amount of the bonds hypothecated by the Nation Trust Company and belonging to the city of Pittsburgh being admitted, and the liability of said Trust Company assumed in the article of submission to arbitration; the amounts being as heretofore stated.

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In conclusion we would respectfully recommend the appointment of a committee to devise a plan for the supervision and control of the construction of the new water works and submit to Councils the necessary ordinances for that purpose. We would also recommend that hereafter all Water Bonds be issued and sold by the City Controller under the direction and supervision of the Finance Committee, and that no bonds be issued until the City Treasurer has officially reported to the Controller of the new water works and for has been paid into the city treasury, and deposited in the city dispositories; and that a sub-committee of three members of the Finance Committee be appointed quarterly, whose duty it shall be to audit and report quarterly to councils, the condition of the bond accounts of the city; and that no bonds be delivered until the same has been registered by the Bond Clerk.

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